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Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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I. Introduction

1. Nearly sixty years after the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established by the General Assembly in December 1950, forced population displacement remains a major global issue. It has grown in magnitude and complexity. Today's global megatrends — including population growth, urbanization, food and energy insecurity, water scarcity and, particularly, climate change — are interacting with traditional drivers, such as conflict and violence, to create new forms of displacement.

2. At the same time, the space in which UNHCR and other humanitarian actors operate continues to diminish. Humanitarian organizations have been denied access to affected populations and expelled from operational areas, assistance has been diverted or manipulated, and aid workers increasingly put at risk. In one six-month period during 2009, UNHCR lost three staff members in separate attacks in a single operation. In light of these events, UNHCR re-examined the security situation in key operations and undertook a range of measures to minimize security risks in the Field. In parallel to shrinking humanitarian space in developing regions, there is increased pressure on the asylum space available in the world's more prosperous States, including a surge in *refoulement* during the reporting period.

3. Over the past year, ongoing conflicts in many countries caused significant internal and cross-border displacement. Indiscriminate violence, the deliberate targeting of civilians, and disregard for basic human rights remained widespread in various parts of the world. Major conflicts such as those in Afghanistan and Somalia showed no signs of being resolved; while conflicts which had appeared to have ended, or to be on the way to doing so, experienced setbacks. As a result, the number of people returning home voluntarily in 2009 was the lowest in twenty years.

4. While mature conflicts failed to resolve, new and renewed conflict situations emerged during the reporting period. During the first half of 2009, tensions in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan caused massive internal population displacement. In Yemen, renewed tensions in the north led to fighting that displaced an estimated 250,000 persons. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, even as refugees were repatriating in significant numbers from Zambia to Katanga Province, in September 2009 armed conflict erupted in Equateur Province, adding to the ongoing displacement in eastern areas of the country. In June 2010, violence in and around Osh and other cities in southern Kyrgyzstan led to the displacement of an estimated 350,000 people internally, plus another 100,000 who briefly took refuge in neighbouring Uzbekistan.

5. In response to this increasingly challenging environment, two basic objectives guide the work of the Office going forward: strengthening protection capacity in response to the threats to humanitarian and asylum space, and enhancing the organization's emergency preparedness and response capability. UNHCR continues to consolidate the progress made through its internal reform process, to reinforce its orientation to results-based management and to ensure that the maximum available resources are dedicated to the people it cares for.

II. Focus and objectives of the report

6. This report provides an account of the work carried out by the Office between January 2009 and mid-2010 on behalf of over 36.5 million people (hereafter referred to as "persons or populations of concern"). It looks at major developments and challenges with respect to the protection, assistance and search for durable solutions for refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern; the consolidation of the Office's internal reform process; continued efforts to tackle protracted refugee situations; and an overview of some of UNHCR's global priorities. Partnerships and coordination of action with other concerned entities, both within and outside of the United Nations system, are also examined. More detailed information, including on regional and country operations, is available in UNHCR's Global Report 2009 as well as in the various governance reports presented to the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme and its Standing Committee. These reports are available at: www.unhcr.org.

III. Populations of concern

7. Table 1 at the end of this report presents the populations of concern at the end of 2009. For more detailed statistical information, please refer to UNHCR's 2009 Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Returnees, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons, published on 15 June 2010 and available at: www.unhcr.org/statistics.

8. At the end of 2009, there were 36.5 million people of concern to UNHCR, including some 10.4 million refugees. The number of people displaced within their own country as a result of conflict reached an estimated 27.1 million, with an unprecedented 15.6 million of them benefiting from UNHCR protection and assistance. The latter constitutes an increase of more than 1.2 million compared to the previous year (14.4 million). The number of stateless persons identified by UNHCR remained at 6.6 million, although the actual number is estimated to be closer to 12 million.

9. Humanitarian crises and the prevailing political situation in a number of countries not only uprooted millions, but also prevented the return of refugees and IDPs. The number of returned refugees (251,000) has steadily decreased since 2004, with 2009 being the lowest level in two decades. In contrast, the number of returned IDPs (2.2 million) was the highest in more than a decade.

10. During 2009, more than 922,000 individual claims for asylum or refugee status were submitted to Governments or UNHCR offices in 159 countries or territories, representing a 5 per cent increase compared to the previous year (875,300) and the third consecutive annual rise. This was partly the result of a persistently high number of asylum applications in South Africa. The majority of asylum applications came from asylum-seekers originating from Afghanistan, Colombia, Ethiopia, Myanmar and Zimbabwe.

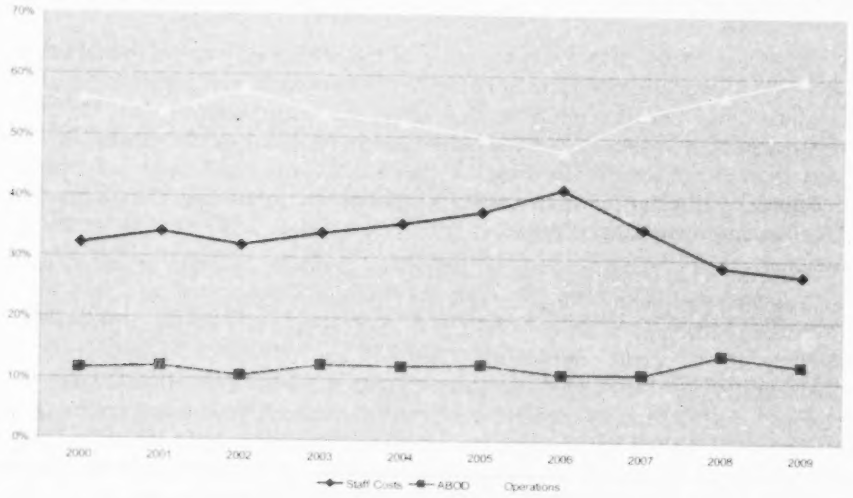
IV. UNHCR reform

11. The internal reforms launched by the High Commissioner four years ago have continued to pay dividends. With essentially the same number of staff worldwide, but 30 per cent fewer at Headquarters in Geneva, UNHCR has increased its activities by more than 60 per cent since 2006. This has allowed the Office to dedicate more resources to the people it cares for, including significantly enhanced efforts to promote solutions and address critical gaps in protection and assistance, notably in the areas of sexual and gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS, malaria, malnutrition, reproductive health, and water and sanitation.

12. In last year's report (A/64/12), preliminary results of the reform process showed a reduction in staff and headquarters costs as a percentage of total expenditure; and an increase in the part of the budget managed by partners, both governmental and non-governmental. In 2009, these trends were confirmed.

Chart A

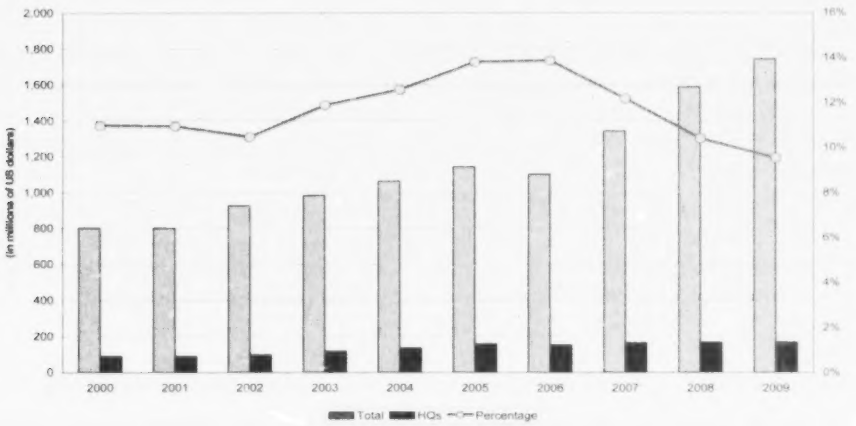
Operations, staff and ABOD costs as a percentage of total costs (2000 to 2009)



13. As shown in the chart above, in 2009, staffing costs went down to 28 per cent of total costs. At the same time, headquarters costs were again reduced, down to 9.5 per cent of total costs as represented in chart B below. The percentage of expenditure managed through implementing partners has increased to 35.9 per cent — reflecting a significant improvement in the expertise and flexibility that UNHCR is able to mobilize.

Chart B

Headquarters (including Budapest) costs as a percentage of total costs (2000 to 2009)



14. The year 2010 marks a turning point in the reform efforts. As the Office has now reached an acceptable level of cost-effectiveness in its performance, the aim is to maintain this now as the reform moves into the consolidation phase. UNHCR's overall objective in pursuing these reform measures has been to devote an ever-higher percentage of its funding to the benefit of populations of concern. Henceforth, particular emphasis will be placed on improving the delivery of protection and emergency response.

15. Gearing up to implement results-based management, all UNHCR offices began planning their operations using the new management support software *Focus*. This software was designed to enable UNHCR to plan, budget and report its programmes according to a results framework. The roll-out of *Focus* complements the introduction of a new budget structure, organized across four pillars, which was developed on the basis of a global/comprehensive needs assessment outlining the full range of UNHCR's budgetary requirements. The Biennial Programme Budget 2010-2011 approved by the Executive Committee in October 2009 represents the beginning of the first full planning cycle under the new budget structure.

16. As with any new system, however, this process has not been without hitches. The fundamental challenge now is to solve technical problems with the implementation of *Focus* and ensure a smooth interface between this new results-based management software and the previously introduced MSRP software system which underpins the Office's financial and human resources management.

17. In 2009, the Office continued to implement the Headquarters Review. The Division for Programme Support and Management has integrated the programme management, analysis and support functions of the Office to enhance the quality of operations, and the Division of Emergency, Security and Supply now encompasses emergency preparedness and response, supply and procurement, and staff and beneficiary security. Since October, the Division of International Protection has been restructured into three pillars covering legal and protection policy, operational support to protection activities, and comprehensive solutions. Currently, the Division of Information Services and Technology is being reorganized to

decentralize technical support from Geneva to six regional platforms. The next steps will include remaining aspects of human resources management reform, notably promotions, recruitment and contracts.

18. In the area of human resources, a new policy and procedures for assignments of international staff have been issued, with the goal of ensuring that the Office has the right staff in the right jobs at the right time. Guidelines aimed at systematizing the use of additional workforce personnel were also developed in conjunction with the United Nations Volunteers programme, the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with which the Office has standby arrangements.

19. Following a six-month trial period, UNHCR refined its Global Management Accountability Framework (GMAF). The GMAF maps accountabilities, responsibilities and authority throughout the organization and links performance and staff development more concretely to a culture of accountability.

V. Protection and operations

A. Overview

20. Insecurity, continuing human rights violations by State and non-State actors and weak State structures — often compounded by dire social conditions, and food, water and economic crises — complicate protection responses and solutions to displacement. In addition, a spate of involuntary returns in 2009, notably in the Mediterranean, the Great Lakes region, the Horn of Africa, and south-east Asia, reflected the increasingly hostile environment for refugees and asylum-seekers. As a result, UNHCR had to intensify efforts to narrow the gap between law and practice in the area of refugee protection, and find new creative approaches to assist displaced populations around the world.

21. The number of refugees in sub-Saharan African continued to decline for the ninth consecutive year, although less so than in previous years. Major displacement generated by ongoing conflicts continued in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Sudan. In the first half of 2010 alone, escalating violence in southern and central Somalia forced an estimated 200,000 persons into displacement, the majority within their own country. On a positive note, UNHCR began to review the situation of refugees from Angola, Burundi, Liberia and Rwanda with a view to bringing closure to these chapters of displacement. The Office is promoting comprehensive solutions strategies in each case, as well as setting out a roadmap for considering the possible cessation of refugee status while establishing safeguards for those who still need international protection. UNHCR also provided technical expertise and financial support in relation to the adoption of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, the only binding treaty with continental scope to address IDP protection and assistance issues.

22. In the Middle East and North Africa region, the organized repatriation of Mauritanian refugees from Senegal came to an end in December 2009. During the latter half of 2009, UNHCR was able to secure, in principle, agreement for the expansion of the Confidence Building Measures programme for Western Sahara,

which would entail the use of road transport for family visits. Despite a relative decrease in violence in the previous period, the security situation in Iraq deteriorated ahead of the March 2010 elections, affecting the ability of many displaced Iraqis to return home. With the support of neighbouring host countries, UNHCR helped provide food, medical interventions and financial assistance for Iraqi refugees. In Yemen, the humanitarian crisis continued to deepen, more than doubling the number of persons displaced internally since the last reporting period. In addition to the estimated 250,000 IDPs, some of whom had been displaced since 2004 when the country's internal conflict first erupted, Yemen continued to receive refugees from Somalia.

23. In Latin America, Colombia and its neighbours continued to experience an elevated rate of new displacement. In Colombia, UNHCR and the Government agreed on a plan for 2010-2011 that builds upon the State's efforts to protect, assist and find solutions for displaced persons. In Ecuador, an innovative registration initiative supported by UNHCR resulted in the provision of identity documents to 26,000 Colombians, and the subsequent granting of refugee status by the host Government. Mobile teams, comprised of government officials from Ecuador and UNHCR staff, traversed difficult terrain to reach the population in an isolated region in the north of the country. Following the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti in January 2010, the Office — in support of the broader United Nations response — mobilized protection and technical staff to assist with the relief efforts, and established a presence in the Dominican Republic to respond to the influx of Haitians following the disaster. Elsewhere in the world, support offered in the past in response to natural disasters has facilitated and strengthened relations with Governments on refugee matters or provided an entry point for more involvement with populations displaced by conflict.

24. In Europe, where approximately 80 per cent of all asylum requests in the industrialized world are lodged, applicants from Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia made up the largest groups. While the challenges to asylum space grew, there were some encouraging developments, including preparations to establish a European Asylum Support Office in which UNHCR has been involved. In south-eastern Europe, UNHCR played particular attention to helping the countries of the former Yugoslavia address outstanding displacement issues and work towards consolidating comprehensive solutions. In Georgia, UNHCR continued to implement critical assistance programmes for internally displaced persons but is shifting its focus with a view to gradually handing over these programmes to development actors.

25. In Asia, the situation remained volatile in Afghanistan. In Pakistan's Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, insecurity continued throughout much of the reporting period. UNHCR provided assistance to many of the estimated 2 million people displaced in these areas, and assisted with the return of nearly 150,000 Afghan refugees from Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran. In Sri Lanka, the Office called for a protection-sensitive approach to voluntary return, and assisted the Government with demining and the provision of material assistance for those wishing to return. In Central Asia, clashes in and around Osh in southern Kyrgyzstan during the first half of 2010, led to the displacement of an estimated 350,000 people inside the country; a further 100,000 fled across the border into Uzbekistan. UNHCR rushed hundreds of tonnes of emergency relief into the two countries in a series of massive air shipments from its stockpile in Dubai, and sent in emergency teams to assist with the emergency. One

of the greatest challenges across the region, is the growing number of refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas.

26. Globally, the number of refugees residing in urban areas continued to grow, and millions more who have fled their homes due to conflict but who are internally displaced, are also living in urban areas. In September 2009, UNHCR issued a new urban refugee policy which provides guidance to the Field on handling the specific challenges encountered in urban settings. The 2009 High Commissioner's Dialogue emphasized the importance of strong and innovative partnerships in such a context, including at the local level. Subsequently, seven "pilot sites" were selected for monitoring during the course of 2010, in order to look at the implementation of the urban refugee policy, examine the challenges encountered, and identify good practices that may be replicated elsewhere.

27. A central component of the Office's efforts to safeguard the rights and well-being of all persons of concern is UNHCR's age, gender and diversity mainstreaming approach (AGDM), developed in 2004. In 2009, an evaluation of the AGDM strategy led the Office to introduce new measures designed to strengthen accountability for AGDM, including by expanding staff and partners' capacity and prioritizing AGDM efforts in terms of resource allocation. The evaluation noted fundamental changes in the way UNHCR staff now operate in promoting gender equality, taking into consideration vulnerable groups and contributing to a better understanding of the protection dimensions of assistance.

B. Refugee protection in the context of international migration

28. Reflecting a growing determination to uphold traditional notions of State sovereignty, 2009 was characterized by greater restrictions and fewer rights, with a clear trend towards introducing laws to deter and criminalize asylum-seekers who arrived irregularly or overstayed their visas. While recognizing the legitimate interest of States to manage immigration and control the entry, stay and removal of migrants, UNHCR continues to stress the need for mechanisms that are responsive to those seeking international protection, including alternatives to detention. The Office continued to work with States to ensure that the proper mechanisms are in place at borders, so that persons seeking protection have access to territory and asylum procedures. In June 2009, UNHCR released a compilation of practical examples from 55 countries on how activities inspired by the 10-Point Plan of Action to address mixed migratory movements have been successfully implemented. The Office also issued a Strategy Note on Combating Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, in the asylum context.

29. The movement of unaccompanied and separated children across borders is a worrying trend, often involving detention and a lack of access to asylum procedures and proper reception facilities. In Europe, the overall number of unaccompanied and separated children claiming asylum increased slightly in 2009, to an estimated 15,000, with some 40 per cent from Afghanistan alone. Responding to the scope and complexity of the situation of unaccompanied and separated children in mixed migration flows necessitates inter-agency cooperation and partnerships with Governments in countries of origin, transit and destination. In this connection, UNHCR, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International

Organization for Migration (IOM) have established a working group to enhance responses to child protection challenges in mixed migration.

30. UNHCR worked to ensure that trafficked persons who wished to seek asylum were properly identified, cared for and assured of access to the appropriate procedures. The Office was actively involved in advocacy activities in a number of regions to ensure that national anti-trafficking laws and policies were protection-sensitive. At the end of 2009, UNHCR and IOM finalized and distributed Joint Framework Standard Operating Procedures on the identification and protection of trafficked persons.

31. UNHCR continued its efforts to protect asylum-seekers and refugees at sea. There were numerous instances of interceptions on the high seas of persons who were potentially seeking asylum, including women and children, where no proper examination of their protection needs was undertaken. "Push-backs" to unsafe countries which are not signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention were of serious concern. In response, UNHCR worked to increase its cooperation with key actors, including the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) maritime forces, and relevant authorities, regarding procedures for handling persons intercepted or rescued at sea and the need to put in place necessary safeguards.

C. States parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees (and/or its 1967 Protocol), the 1954 Convention relating to the status of stateless persons, and the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness

32. The number of States parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees remained at 144, while the number of States parties to the 1967 Protocol increased to 145, with ratification by Monaco during the first half of 2010. The total number of States parties to one or both of these instruments remained at 147 during the reporting period.

33. The number of States parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the status of stateless persons (the 1954 Convention) and the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness (the 1961 Convention), two key instruments for the protection of stateless people and the prevention and reduction of statelessness, remained limited. In 2009, two States[1] acceded to the 1961 Convention and two acceded to the 1954 Convention. By the end of June 2010, the total number of States parties to the 1954 Convention increased to 65, while 37 States were party to the 1961 Convention. Increasing the numbers of States parties to these conventions remained a key objective of the Office. Efforts to promote accessions will be stepped up in the context of the 50th anniversary of the 1961 Convention.

[1] Liechtenstein acceded to both Statelessness Conventions in September 2009, while Hungary acceded to the 1961 Convention in May 2009, and Malawi acceded to the 1954 Convention in October 2009.

D. Identification, prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons

34. Many stateless people around the globe continued to face challenges in exercising their human rights, including obtaining identity documents, registering their children and accessing public services. In March 2010, UNHCR published a strategy note entitled "UNHCR Action to address statelessness". The note provides a framework of action, including guidance and suggested activities that can be undertaken in the Field, for use by UNHCR staff and partners, including United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, Governments, civil society, and regional organizations.

35. UNHCR continued to make strategic use of its limited resources and a growing range of partnerships to ensure that States take the necessary steps to address the statelessness issue in accordance with international standards and best practice. For example, a joint UNHCR and UNICEF project in Georgia assisted individuals with registration and documentation. With support from the European Union, UNHCR implemented an ambitious project in south-eastern Europe to ensure access to civil documentation for Roma populations. A regional conference in Turkmenistan, co-hosted by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), allowed Governments to share best practices and discuss obstacles to the eradication of statelessness in the region. Mapping of people who were, or were at risk of becoming, stateless, awareness raising and capacity building were at the centre of UNHCR's activities in countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya, as well as in the Gulf region; while in Iraq, Nepal, and Ukraine, UNHCR assisted people in acquiring or confirming nationality. In Sudan, in a move to prevent statelessness as a possible result of the referendum on the independence of Southern Sudan in 2011, the Office has embarked on several activities, including a review of the legal framework, promotion of access to the Statelessness Conventions, training of government officials and ensuring that affected populations have documentation.

36. Major progress was achieved by the Russian Federation in reducing statelessness and, prior to events which unfolded during the first half of 2010, efforts were also being made in Kyrgyzstan. A number of States took positive steps to improve national legislation in order to ensure the right to a nationality and avoid statelessness. For example, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe introduced reforms recognizing the right of women to confer nationality on their children on an equal basis with men. Viet Nam introduced revised legislation, paving the way for easier naturalization of stateless persons and for the reacquisition of nationality by former citizens, including those who became stateless when they failed to acquire another nationality through naturalization.

E. Emergency preparedness and response

37. In July 2009, UNHCR established the Division of Emergency, Security and Supply (DESS) with the aim of maximizing the key strategic linkages between emergency preparedness and response, supply management, and security for staff and persons of concern. Following review of the Office's emergency preparedness and response capacity in 2009, DESS developed an Emergency Preparedness Plan of Action for 2010-2011, aimed at strengthening protection in all aspects of emergency

management; applying a lessons-learned/best practice approach through the evaluation of emergency operations; improving preparedness activities such as early-warning, situational analysis and contingency planning; and strengthening internal and external capacity through training. Partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities remain an essential component of UNHCR's overall response capacity. UNHCR is also working to ensure that staff members have the right skills and profiles needed to work in complex, high-risk field operations. To provide a more robust, yet flexible, capacity to provide life-saving assistance, UNHCR introduced a Global Stockpile Management system and has taken steps to improve its financial procedures to facilitate a response for up to 500,000 persons of concern within 72 hours.

38. In terms of inter-agency coordination, UNHCR is participating in a joint effort, supported by the European Union, to develop a new version of the Humanitarian Early Warning System, for conflict-generated emergencies. The Office has also continued to participate in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and its sub-working group on preparedness, including through the UNHCR eCentre located in Tokyo.

F. Safety and security of staff and populations of concern

39. In 2009, UNHCR comprehensively examined and strengthened its system of security management and the way in which it assures the safety and security of staff, operations and persons of concern. This internal review coincided with the completion of a first-ever audit of security governance, undertaken from March to June 2009, by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS).

40. Both the internal review and the OIOS audit took place against a backdrop of increased threats to the United Nations and especially humanitarian workers. Agencies, Funds and Programmes have been at particular risk in countries where the United Nations is perceived as being associated with a particular political agenda — a trend confirmed by fatal attacks on the United Nations in Algiers (December 2007), Hargeisa (October 2008), and Kabul and Islamabad (October 2009). Another indicator of this trend was related to the number of aid workers kidnapped globally, a figure that was 350 per cent higher in the period 2006-2008 than in the period 2003-2005.[2]

41. Based on the internal review and the OIOS audit, UNHCR has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at enhancing security management throughout the organization. These include a strengthened Field Safety Section in the newly created Division of Emergency, Security and Supply; better support to staff and managers in the Field; a more systematic approach to the provision of physical security for persons of concern, in conjunction with the Division of International Protection; the identification and hiring of qualified field safety advisors; enhanced security analysis with an emphasis on helping decision-makers judge threats, risks and vulnerabilities more accurately; and multiplied opportunities for security specialists, managers and staff to undergo adapted and specialized security training.

[2] Overseas Development Institute, Humanitarian Policy Group, Policy Brief 34, *Providing aid in insecure environments: 2009 update*, April 2009.

42. In addition, a high-level Security Steering Committee under the chairmanship of the High Commissioner was instituted in mid-2009 to conduct regular reviews of high-risk operations in critical locations. These measures are aimed at supporting UNHCR's approach to security, as a means of enabling persons of concern to access the protection and assistance they deserve.

G. Assuring basic needs and essential services

43. One of UNHCR's Global Strategic Priorities remains to satisfy basic needs and assure essential services for persons of concern. This includes food security and nutrition; basic domestic and hygiene items; water and sanitation; primary health care; prevention and treatment of HIV and AIDS; education; and services for groups with special needs.

44. The year 2009 was a devastating one for the world's hungry, and refugees and IDPs, many of whom live in remote areas with limited access to fertile land or livelihood activities, continued to be among the hardest hit. UNHCR worked closely with WFP in this area (see Chapter VII on partnerships and coordination). In 2009, the project for anaemia control and prevention was implemented in seven of the countries showing the highest prevalence of anaemia.

45. In 2009, UNHCR sought to ensure that refugees and other people of concern had access to health services similar to those available to local populations. Particular emphasis is being placed on integrating urban refugees into existing public health services. To address HIV and AIDS in line with its Strategic Plan for 2008-2012, UNHCR continued to advocate for access of people of concern to national HIV prevention and treatment programmes. By the end of 2009, approximately 87 per cent of refugees in need of antiretroviral treatment had access to it, and 75 per cent of pregnant women had access to prevention of mother-to-child transmission programmes.

46. On the basis of identified gaps, the Office established a three-year plan to improve existing water and sanitation services in 17 UNHCR operations. For instance, in Uganda in 2009, approximately 28,000 individuals of concern to UNHCR benefited from a 15 per cent increase in the water supply. Similar achievements were made in 2009 in the Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya, where new boreholes increased the water supply by 35 per cent for approximately 300,000 refugees in the camps. UNHCR also began a comprehensive mapping exercise to assess the needs and gaps in providing sanitary materials to all women of concern.

47. Access to education is still not widely available to refugees, with low rates of enrolment at both the primary and secondary levels. Though considerable progress has been achieved, there is still a need to improve school enrolment rates, in both camp and urban settings. In the camps in eastern Chad for example, only 370 out of over 16,000 children receive secondary education. UNHCR's new education strategy for 2010-2012 focuses on boosting its long-term capacity to support educational programmes as a means of strengthening protection. In 2009, operations in 11 countries began receiving technical support and assistance to improve enrolment and establish safe schools and learning environments. Cooperation with UNICEF and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has also been reinforced through joint missions and activities in the Field. In terms of higher education, the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee

Initiative (DAFI) assisted more than 1,770 students in 34 countries with full or partial scholarships at the university level.

48. In line with its Environmental Guidelines, in 2009 UNHCR and partners worked to consistently introduce, apply and support a range of specific environmental management projects, approaches and tools. These included developing community environmental management plans in camps, such as in Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, as well as undertaking environmental impact assessments, notably in Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya and Rwanda. The use of alternative energy, environmentally friendly shelters and green technologies was promoted, and reforestation projects were implemented. In addition, UNHCR organized environmental management training for staff, implementing partners and governmental counterparts in key locations.

49. The protection of older people of concern and those living with disabilities remained a priority for UNHCR in 2009. The Office initiated programmes targeting older persons in several countries including Georgia, Jordan, and Myanmar. In Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen targeted activities ensured the inclusion and participation of those living with disabilities in protection and programme delivery.

VI. Resolving protracted refugee situations and achieving durable solutions

50. In many countries, stalled or failed peace processes, continued security risks, including the presence of landmines, and a lack of basic services and livelihood opportunities, prevented refugees from returning to their homes. The Office continues to promote voluntary repatriation for some, and develop alternative solutions and measures to ensure the continued protection of those refugees unable to return home.

A. Protracted refugee situations

51. Some 5.5 million refugees were living in a protracted situation at the end of 2009. In an effort to alleviate the burdens on countries hosting large numbers of refugees for prolonged periods, UNHCR, together with Governments and the international community, worked to create space for development programmes, reduce dependency, and increase possibilities for self-sufficiency. In Bangladesh, for example, UNHCR completed a comprehensive profiling of all refugees in the camps to identify specific needs, as well as individual educational qualifications and skills, in order to better focus self-reliance opportunities and identify those in need of resettlement. While voluntary repatriation remains the preferred solution for Afghans in the Islamic Republic of Iran, UNHCR and the Government are exploring new initiatives with the aim of developing a sustainable livelihood strategy while they remain in the country. In Pakistan, the Government has allowed 1.7 million registered Afghans to remain in the country for at least three more years; at the same time, UNHCR is pursuing efforts to facilitate voluntary repatriation and invest in host communities.

52. Strategies for self-reliance and empowerment were also adopted in several other protracted and urban operations, including in Armenia, Bangladesh, Burundi, Egypt, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Senegal, eastern Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and Zimbabwe. UNHCR welcomed the adoption of a Conclusion on protracted refugee situations by its Executive Committee in 2009. Taking on board many of the recommendations that came out of the 2008 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges, UNHCR has developed a Global Plan of Action on protracted situations, emphasizing the need to provide assistance and find durable solutions in a spirit of international collaboration, solidarity and burden sharing.

B. Voluntary repatriation

53. As already noted, the voluntary repatriation level for refugees was at its lowest in two decades. For the repatriation movements that did take place, the main countries of return in 2009 included Afghanistan (57,600), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (44,300), Iraq (38,000), Sudan (33,100), Burundi (32,400), and Rwanda (20,600). February 2009 marked the return from exile of the 300,000th Sudanese refugee since the start of UNHCR's repatriation operation in Southern Sudan in December 2005. During 2009, the Office and partners, in cooperation with the local authorities, continued efforts to meet the basic needs of returnees and support their reintegration, including in the areas of health and education.

54. The search for repatriation and reintegration opportunities continued in a number of other countries. For example, with support from UNHCR, more than 12,000 Mauritanian refugees returned home from Senegal in 2009. Since the end of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka in May 2009, UNHCR has been providing support to the Government in de-mining and providing assistance to ensure the sustainable reintegration of returnees. Progress in reconstruction and reconciliation remains key to resolving the displacement of Sri Lankans within and outside the country. In Iraq, UNHCR's activities formed part of the inter-agency Iraq Humanitarian Action Plan (IHAP), supporting the Iraqi Government in establishing the conditions to facilitate the return of refugees and IDPs.

C. Local integration

55. The degree of local integration achieved remained difficult to measure in quantitative terms. In those cases where refugees acquire citizenship through naturalization, data is often limited, as the countries concerned generally do not distinguish between refugees and others who have been naturalized. The United States of America granted citizenship to some 55,000 refugees in 2009. UNHCR was also informed of refugees being granted citizenship in Armenia, Belgium, Ireland and the Russian Federation in 2009.

56. In Africa, most notably in the United Republic of Tanzania, where 162,000 Burundian refugees living in exile since 1972 were granted citizenship, local integration has emerged as a viable solution for many refugees. Since the completion of the large-scale repatriation programme for Angolan refugees in 2007, UNHCR and the Governments of a number of asylum countries, including Namibia, have been looking into alternative arrangements for the remaining Angolan

population. In West Africa, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) recognized that refugees from Member States are entitled to work residency and other rights under the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment. UNHCR has assisted over 5,000 refugees from Sierra Leone to obtain documentation, access these rights and integrate locally. The Office has also supported self-reliance programmes for Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees in the region, including in agriculture and vocational training.

D. Resettlement

57. UNHCR estimated the global resettlement needs in 2009 at about 747,000 persons, including populations for whom resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This included some 200,000 persons for whom resettlement is a pressing need, but available resettlement places have not kept pace with the growing needs. In 2010, with approximately 80,000 slots available, including one-time allocations by some States in response to the resettlement needs of Iraqi refugees, only about 40 per cent of the identified resettlement needs will be covered.

58. The Office's response to the gap between needs and places available has been threefold: (i) to encourage more countries to establish resettlement programmes or consider UNHCR submissions; (ii) to work with established resettlement countries to increase their intake of UNHCR-identified refugees; and (iii) to prioritize responses to resettlement needs and submissions, in light of the limited places available. One of UNHCR's Global Strategic Priorities for 2010-2011 foresees a 10 per cent increase in resettlement places. This objective will not be met however, unless States initiate new resettlement programmes or expand existing ones.

59. In 2009 and 2010, UNHCR's efforts to promote the strategic use of resettlement included ensuring that 10 per cent of its overall submissions were for women and girls at risk. In 2009, 34 operations exceeded 10 per cent of resettlement submissions for women at risk and 26 operations exceeded 15 per cent. The Office has also continued to draw the attention of resettlement countries to the needs of persons of concern in a number of priority situations in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East/North Africa regions. In addition, UNHCR has promoted multi-year resettlement programmes which provide greater predictability than annual initiatives and help implement comprehensive strategies.

VII. Partnerships and coordination

60. In 2009, UNHCR had almost 700 national partners and nearly 190 international partners worldwide. The Office remained committed to efforts aimed at improving the efficiency and coherence of humanitarian action, notably through the cluster approach to situations of internal displacement and the United Nations Delivering as One initiative. It continued to work closely with the IASC on an array of issues including strengthening the Humanitarian Coordinator system, preserving humanitarian space, and addressing the humanitarian consequences of climate change. Within the inter-agency context, in November 2009 UNHCR hosted the fourth meeting of the Inter-agency Support Group for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, highlighting the need to include non-citizens in national assistance programmes for persons with disabilities.

61. Maintaining strong bilateral relations with key partner organizations remained a priority. During the first half of 2010, UNHCR and UNICEF agreed on a joint work plan to increase cooperation in the Field, including in the areas of child protection and emergency preparedness. While global food security continued to deteriorate, UNHCR and WFP collaborated to cover the food and nutrition needs of more than 2 million refugees and 10 million IDPs in 26 countries. In 2010, UNHCR and the International Labour Organization (ILO) set up an agreement to expand cooperation in the area of microfinance, with the aim of bolstering the self-reliance of displaced populations. Cooperation with IOM, one of UNHCR's most important partners, increased substantially in 2009, particularly in the areas of mixed migration and human trafficking.

62. As the single largest group of UNHCR's partners, NGOs continued to play an essential role in meeting the needs of populations of concern to the Office. In 2009, 27 per cent of UNHCR's total expenditure was channelled through 672 NGOs (159 international and 513 national). National NGOs are a major cornerstone of UNHCR's delivery capacity, providing vital local expertise and field presence. In June 2009, some 180 NGO representatives attended the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations, providing important input into the Office's new urban refugee policy. The 2010 Consultations held in early July, put specific focus on the particular contribution made by local NGOs in enabling UNHCR to carry out its mandate. Over 200 organizations were represented this year, half of which were national partners.

63. Regional efforts aimed at strengthening partnerships and coordination made noticeable progress during the reporting period. In the Middle East, UNHCR worked to develop its partnerships with Governments and organizations. In June 2009, UNHCR and the Organization of the Islamic Conference published a joint study in an effort to generate a better understanding of the natural compatibility between concepts of international refugee law and Islamic sharia law. In Europe, UNHCR worked to support the development of a Common European Asylum System, in order to harmonize EU legal standards with international norms and promote consistency in practice. Together with the Organization of American States, the Office was involved in a number of joint initiatives in the Americas region including an Inter-American Course on International Law, a Regional Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration, and the development of Regional Guidelines for Assistance to Unaccompanied Minors in Cases of Repatriation. In Africa, in 2009 UNHCR established its Representation to the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa, which played an active role in supporting the adoption of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa. Cooperation with civil society representatives and countries in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) paved the way for consultations in 2010 on access to asylum and refugee protection, particularly in the context of broader migration movements. In Central Asia, UNHCR strengthened its partnership with OSCE, including on the issue of statelessness and in relation to the training of senior border managers.

64. In 2009, UNHCR focused on reinforcing its key corporate partnerships, which not only bring in financial support but also include contributions of expertise, goods and media space. In particular, the Office deepened its collaboration with key partners in its Council of Business Leaders, including Manpower, Microsoft, Nike,

PricewaterhouseCoopers, and WPP. UNHCR offices and associations around the globe are also developing partnerships at the national level.

65. In addition to corporate partnerships, UNHCR's relationships with major charitable foundations, such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the United Nations Foundation, the Jolie-Pitt Foundation, and the Howard G. Buffet Foundation, as well as with the Office's Goodwill Ambassadors, brought about important contributions and material support, and played a critical role in terms of advocacy.

VIII. Financial management and oversight of programmes

A. Financial management

66. The total requirements for 2009 amounted to $2,293.4 million, comprising $1,292.6 million under the Annual Programme Budget and $1,000.8 million for 29 Supplementary Programme Budgets. International support for UNHCR's activities was unprecedented in 2009, with income exceeding $1,715 million in voluntary contributions, including more than $50 million from the private sector. This represented an increase of $117.5 million when compared with 2008. It allowed the Office to provide uninterrupted services to ongoing operations and to respond quickly and effectively to new emergencies worldwide.

67. As mentioned earlier, starting with the 2010-2011 budget cycle, UNHCR has introduced a new budget structure, in line with its move to results-based management. The 2010-2011 biennial budget was drawn up on the basis of a comprehensive assessment of the needs of persons of concern to the Office. The results were then re-examined under a prioritization process and reflected in the new four-pillar structure. This new budgetary process is supported by the *Focus* management support software system.

68. By mid-year, UNHCR's total Annual Budget for 2010 amounted to $3.134 billion, comprising $3.007 billion under the Annual Budget approved by the Executive Committee at its sixtieth session and an increase of $127.4 million for seven supplementary budgets created since January 2010 for new emergency interventions in the Congo, the Central African Republic, Haiti, Yemen, Kenya, Pakistan and Somalia. Over 48 donors pledged $477.5 million to UNHCR's Programme for 2010 before or during the Pledging Conference in December 2009. By mid-year, UNHCR had received a total of $1,297.2 billion in voluntary contributions. At that point it was estimated that income towards the Annual Budget and the supplementary budgets would reach approximately $1.654 billion, leaving a combined funding shortfall of some $1.269.5 billion at the end of the year.

69. UNHCR continued to explore options for funding its end-of-service and post-retirement liabilities, including after-service health insurance (ASHI), following closely the discussions in the United Nations General Assembly on the development of a system-wide approach. The Office continues to work towards becoming fully compliant with United Nations system-wide financial and accounting standards, notably the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), and the United Nations Harmonized Financial Regulations and Rules.

70. The entire organization is continuing to adjust to a new way of functioning, in line with the reform process and developments in the financial management system. It has been a daunting undertaking to introduce these new financial planning and budgeting systems all at one time, and this will continue to require perseverance and patience. UNHCR remains committed to working through these challenges and counts on Member States and its many other partners to support its efforts to become a more agile, accountable and results-oriented organization.

B. Oversight and audit

1. UNHCR audit service

71. The United Nations Office of Internal Oversight (OIOS) provides internal audit services to UNHCR. During the reporting period, 30 audit reports were produced compared to 21 in the prior period. The significant change from prior reporting periods was the increase in oversight of Headquarters activities, including arrangements for the delegation of authority to the Field, safety and security, and activities on behalf of internally displaced persons. The 30 audit reports generated 323 recommendations, in areas such as supply management, human resources management, programme and project management, financial management, information technology management, and safety and security.

2. Inspection and investigation

72. UNHCR's Inspector General established a "road map" in 2009 to strengthen the capacity of his office and implement the recommendations made by the Independent Panel Review of the Inspector General's Office (IGO) conducted in 2008 by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF). As part of this process, the IGO was restructured in May 2010, including the upgrading of the former Inspection and Investigation Sections to Services, bringing them into line with other oversight entities in UNHCR.

73. Between January 2009 and May 2010, the IGO received 1210 complaints and opened up 145 investigations into alleged misconduct. The sharp increase in the number of complaints as compared to previous periods can be attributed to the establishment, in January 2009, of an on-line complaints mechanism to facilitate the reporting of possible misconduct, notably by persons of concern to UNHCR. The predominant types of situation investigated were harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination. During this period, the IGO carried out 19 standard inspections, two compliance missions and one ad hoc inquiry. The high rate of compliance with IGO recommendations registered in 2009 was maintained, with 90 per cent either implemented or underway. The remaining 10 per cent could not be implemented due to changed circumstances since the inspection. The ad hoc inquiry carried out in October 2009 was related to the violent attacks which led to the death of three UNHCR staff members in Pakistan.

74. In order to improve the delivery of the inspection function, the IGO has introduced a revised 2010 strategy, which includes: a) improving the annual inspection planning process through an increased risk-based approach in the selection of standard inspections; b) creating a predictable inspection roster for the three functional areas covered by standard inspections; c) narrowing the scope of

standard inspections by limiting them to the examination of management aspects; and d) developing and updating inspection tools.

IX. Conclusion

75. Forced displacement, statelessness and complex migratory movements will remain prominent global issues for the foreseeable future. The 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Office at the end of 2010, as well as the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 50th anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in 2011, provide an opportunity to reinforce the core principles and values of the existing consensus regarding the protection of those who have been forced from their homes and stateless populations. At the same time, these milestones should give space for reflection on how to create a new dynamic for dealing with protection issues that do not fall within the ambit of the 1951 Convention. Above all, it is an occasion to encourage States to pledge concrete actions on behalf of populations of concern. Going forward, UNHCR will continue to advocate for the preservation and expansion of humanitarian and asylum space; to strengthen and build upon its partnerships; to reinforce its protection and emergency response capacities; and to pursue lasting solutions for the people it cares for.

Table I

Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum, end-2009 (Table established June 2010)

Country/territory of asylum[1]	REFUGEES					Returned refugees[2]	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations[3]	Returned IDPs[4]	Stateless persons[5]	Various[6]	Total population of concern
	Refugees[2]	People in refugee-like situations[3]	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	*Of whom assisted by UNHCR*	Asylum-seekers (pending cases)[4]						
Afghanistan	37	-	37	37	12	57,582	297,129	7,225			361,985
Albania	70	-	70	70	20						90
Algeria[7]	94,137	-	94,137	90,132	153	1					94,291
Angola	14,734	-	14,734	4,824	4,241	2,449				14,479	35,903
Argentina	3,230	-	3,230	328	750						3,980
Armenia	3,607	-	3,607	3,280	39					82,221	85,867
Australia	22,548	-	22,548	-	2,350						24,898
Austria	38,906	-	38,906	-	32,146				523		71,575
Azerbaijan	1,642	-	1,642	1,642	46	1	586,013		2,078	510	590,290
Bahrain	139	-	139	139	12						151
Bangladesh	28,586	200,000	228,586	28,342							228,586
Belarus	580	-	580	232	90				7,799		8,469
Belgium	15,545	-	15,545	-	18,233				637		34,415
Belize	230	-	230	53	21						251
Benin	7,205	-	7,205	7,205	124						7,329
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	679	-	679	332	34						713
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7,132	-	7,132	1,485	367	874	113,642	299	9,688	50,874	182,876
Botswana	3,022	-	3,022	3,022	206						3,228
Brazil	4,232	-	4,232	2,771	176				106		4,514
British Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-	6						6
Bulgaria	5,393	-	5,393	-	1,196						6,589
Burkina Faso	543	-	543	543	515						1,058
Burundi	24,967	-	24,967	24,967	6,338	32,362	100,000				183,667
Cambodia	135	-	135	135	29						164
Cameroon	99,957	-	99,957	97,086	1,312						101,269
Canada	169,434	-	169,434	-	61,170						230,604
Cayman Islands	1	-	1	-	4						5
Central African Rep.	27,047	-	27,047	4,319	1,219	53	197,000				225,319
Chad	311,393	24,102	338,495	314,393	64	1,802	170,531	20,771			531,663
Chile	1,539	-	1,539	-	498						2,037
China[11]	300,989	-	300,989	64	43					4	301,036
Hong Kong SAR, China	86	-	86	86	791						877
Macao SAR, China	6	-	6	6	6						12
Colombia	195	-	196	71	116	60	3,303,979		11		3,304,362
Comoros	-	-	-	-	-						-
Congo, Rep. of	111,411	-	111,411	1,440	4,920	80					116,411
Costa Rica	12,298	6,818	19,116	15,411	587						19,703
Côte d'Ivoire	24,604	-	24,604	24,604	222	90	519,140	166,816			710,872
Croatia	1,149	89	1,238	1,238	39	711	2,286	212	237	23,583	28,306
Cuba	454	-	454	407	5	1					460
Cyprus	2,888	-	2,888	-	5,015						7,903
Czech Rep.	2,323	-	2,323	-	1,265						3,588
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	185,809	-	185,809	3,018	643	44,296	2,052,677	76,859		11	2,362,295
Denmark	20,355	-	20,355	-	1,193				3,263		24,811
Djibouti	12,111	-	12,111	11,289	921						13,032
Ecuador	45,192	71,365	116,557	45,192	50,632						167,189
Egypt	94,406	-	94,406	24,405	13,443	1			64		107,914
El Salvador	30	-	30	27	58						88
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-						-
Eritrea	4,751	-	4,751	4,716	134	8					4,893
Estonia	24	-	24	-	19				104,813		104,856
Ethiopia	121,886	-	121,886	121,886	2,458	17					124,361
Fiji	2	-	2	2	4						6
Finland	7,447	-	7,447	-	3,784				2,407		13,638
France	196,364	-	196,364	-	35,268				1,078		232,710
Gabon	8,845	-	8,845	8,845	4,287						13,132
Gambia	10,118	-	10,118	8,942	69					2,156	12,343
Georgia	870	-	870	870	26		352,640	5,273	1,671		360,486
Germany	593,799	-	593,799	-	38,932				8,726	12,675	656,632
Ghana	13,658	-	13,658	13,658	598	1					14,257
Greece	1,695	-	1,695	-	48,201	-	-		260		50,156
Guatemala	131	-	131	-	4						135
Guinea	15,325	-	15,325	15,325	928	1					16,254
Guinea-Bissau	7,898	-	7,898	7,898	289						8,187
Haiti	3	-	3	3	12	8					23
Honduras	19	-	19	-	1						20
Hungary	6,044	-	6,044	6,044	647				49		6,740
Iceland	62	-	62	-	22				133		217
India	185,323	-	185,323	12,440	5,441						190,764
Indonesia	798	-	798	798	1,769	311					2,878
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	1,070,488	-	1,070,488	1,070,488	1,858						1,072,346
Iraq	35,218	-	35,218	35,216	3,800	38,037	1,562,003	167,740	230,090		2,026,798

Country/territory of asylum[1]	REFUGEES					Returned refugees[5]	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl people in IDP like situations[6]	Returned IDPs[7]	Stateless persons[8]	Various[9]	Total population of concern
	Refugees[2]	People in refugee-like situations[3]	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	*Of whom assisted by UNHCR*	Asylum-seekers (pending cases)[4]						
Ireland	9,571	-	9,571	-	2,755	-	-	-			12,326
Israel	382	17,354	17,736	*9,632*	4,144	-	-	-	-	-	21,880
Italy	54,965	-	54,965	-	4,365	-	-	-	793	-	60,123
Jamaica	26	-	26	*26*		-	-	-			26
Japan	2,332	-	2,332	*540*	2,935	-	-	-	1,525	-	6,792
Jordan[12]	450,756	-	450,756	*47,356*	604	-	-	-		-	451,360
Kazakhstan	4,340	-	4,340	*720*	129	-	-	-	7,649	-	12,118
Kenya	358,928	-	358,928	*358,928*	18,958	453	399,000	5,000	100,000	-	882,339
Kuwait	221	-	221	*44*	2,985	-	-	-	93,000	-	96,206
Kyrgyzstan	423	-	423	*423*	495	-	-	-	24,615	-	25,533
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	43	-	43	-	52	-	-	-	344,263	-	344,358
Lebanon	50,300	113	50,413	*10,800*	607	-	-	-	-	-	51,020
Lesotho	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liberia	6,944	8	6,952	*6,952*	535	1,408	-	-	-	2,500	11,395
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	9,005	-	9,005	*752*	3,317	-	-	-	-	-	12,322
Liechtenstein	91	-	91	-	47	-	-	-	6	-	144
Lithuania	793	-	793	-	70	-	-	-	3,902	-	4,765
Luxembourg	3,230	-	3,230	-	465	-	-	-	177	-	3,872
Madagascar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malawi	5,443	-	5,443	*5,442*	4,602	-	-	-	-	-	10,045
Malaysia[13]	65,350	787	66,137	*66,048*	10,267	-	-	-	40,001	61,329	177,734
Mali	13,538	-	13,538	*13,538*	1,706	-	-	-	-	-	15,244
Malta	5,955	-	5,955	-	1,828	-	-	-	-	-	7,783
Mauritania	795	26,000	26,795	*521*	118	12,013	-	-	-	-	38,926
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	1,235	-	1,235	*250*	96	-	-	-	-	-	1,331
Micronesia (Federated States of)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mongolia	11	-	11	*11*	3	-	-	-	373	-	387
Montenegro	24,019	-	24,019	*24,019*	7	-	-	-	1,500	-	25,526
Morocco	773	-	773	*773*	318	-	-	-	-	-	1,091[11]
Mozambique	3,547	-	3,547	*2,107*	4,176	-	-	-	-	-	7,723
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-	-	67,290	-	723,571	-	790,861
Namibia	7,163	-	7,163	*7,163*	1,343	31	-	-	-	-	8,537
Nepal	106,164	2,297	108,461	*86,162*	978	1	-	-	800,000	476	909,916
Netherlands	76,008	-	76,008	-	16,245	-	-	-	5,034	-	97,287
New Zealand	3,289	-	3,289	-	232	-	-	-	-	-	3,521
Nicaragua	120	-	120	*71*	1	-	-	-	-	-	121
Niger	325	-	325	*194*	32	-	-	-	-	-	357
Nigeria	9,127	-	9,127	*9,127*	1,145	-	-	-	-	-	10,272
Norway	37,826	-	37,826	-	16,639	-	-	-	2,860	-	57,325
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oman	26	-	26	*26*	12	-	-	-	-	-	38
Pakistan[14]	759,392	981,319	1,740,711	*1,740,711*	2,430	4	1,894,557	1,106,396	-	-	4,744,098
Palau	11	-	11	*11*	1	-	-	-	-	-	12
Panama	1,923	15,000	16,923	*3,707*	790	-	-	-	1	-	17,714
Papua New Guinea	4,703	5,000	9,703	*2,644*	3	-	-	-	-	-	9,706
Paraguay	89	-	89	*89*	4	-	-	-	-	-	93
Peru	1,108	-	1,108	*127*	376	1	-	-	-	-	1,485
Philippines	95	-	95	*11*	55	-	-	-	-	68	218
Poland	15,320	-	15,320	-	2,402	-	-	-	865	-	18,587
Portugal	389	-	389	-	19	-	-	-	31	-	439
Qatar	29	-	29	*29*	8	-	-	-	1,200	-	1,237
Rep. of Korea	268	-	268	*28*	660	-	-	-	103	-	1,031
Rep. of Moldova	141	-	141	*141*	52	-	-	-	2,014	-	2,207
Romania	1,069	-	1,069	*281*	398	-	-	-	306	-	1,773
Russian Federation	4,880	-	4,880	*4,880*	1,678	29	79,950	878	50,000	-	137,415
Rwanda	54,016	-	54,016	*54,016*	282	20,596	-	-	-	-	74,894
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saint Lucia	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sao Tome and Principe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	548	27	575	*575*	104	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,679
Senegal	22,151	-	22,151	*22,151*	2,796	-	-	-	-	-	24,947
Serbia	86,351	-	86,351	*86,351*	30	2,705	224,881	871	16,700	386	331,924
Sierra Leone	9,051	-	9,051	*9,051*	211	227	-	-	-	-	9,489
Singapore	7	-	7	*7*	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Slovakia	401	-	401	-	254	-	-	-	911	59	1,625
Slovenia	289	-	289	*289*	80	-	-	-	4,090	-	4,459
Somalia	1,815	-	1,815	*1,815*	24,668	61	1,550,000	-	-	-	1,576,544
South Africa[15]	47,974	-	47,974	-	309,794	-	-	-	-	-	357,768
Spain	3,970	-	3,970	-	3,280	-	-	-	28	-	7,278

Country/territory of asylum[1]	REFUGEES					Returned refugees[5]	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl people in IDP-like situations[6]	Returned IDPs[7]	Stateless persons[8]	Various[9]	Total population of concern
	Refugees[2]	People in refugee-like situations[3]	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	*Of whom assisted by UNHCR*	Asylum-seekers (pending cases)[4]						
Sri Lanka	251	-	251	*251*	338	1.489	434.900	94.600			531.578
Sudan	152.375	33.917	186.292	*92.621*	5.941	33.139	1.034.140	166.900			1.426.412
Suriname	1	-	1	[7]	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Swaziland	759	-	759	*612*	610	-	-	-	-	-	1.369
Sweden	81.356	-	81.356	-	18.953	-	-	-	7.758	-	108.067
Switzerland	46.203	-	46.203	-	17.139	-	-	-	67	-	63.409
Syrian Arab Rep.[12]	1.054.466	-	1.054.466	*222.966*	3.080	-	-	-	300.000	-	1.357.546
Tajikistan	2.679	-	2.679	*2.037*	1.513	-	-	-	2.626	-	6.818
Thailand	105.297	-	105.297	*105.297*	10.255	-	-	-	3.500.000	-	3.615.552
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1.065	477	1.542	*1.542*	75	-	-	-	1.911	-	3.528
Timor-Leste	1	-	1	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	11
Togo	8.531	-	8.531	*472*	150	284	-	-	-	-	8.965
Trinidad and Tobago	37	-	37	*37*	196	-	-	-	-	-	233
Tunisia	92	-	92	*45*	36	-	-	-	-	-	128
Turkey	10.350	-	10.350	*10.350*	5.987	26	-	-	2.739	306	19.408
Turkmenistan	60	-	60	*60*	-	-	-	-	12.000	-	12.060
Uganda[16]	127.345	-	127.345	*127.345*	11.551	88	446.300	407.700	-	-	992.984
Ukraine	2.334	5.000	7.334	*421*	2.059	-	-	-	56.500	-	65.893
United Arab Emirates	279	-	279	*279*	76	-	-	-	-	-	355
United Kingdom	269.363	-	269.363	-	11.900	-	-	-	205	-	281.468
United Rep. of Tanzania	118.731	-	118.731	*118.731*	844	-	-	-	-	155.051	274.626
United States of America	275.461	-	275.461	-	63.803	-	-	-	-	-	339.264
Uruguay	168	-	168	*84*	41	-	-	-	-	-	209
Uzbekistan	555	-	555	*555*	-	12	-	-	-	-	567
Vanuatu	4	-	4	*3*	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Venezuela (Boliv. Rep. of)	1.313	200.000	201.313	*20.991*	14.372	-	-	-	-	-	215.685
Viet Nam	2.357	-	2.357	-	-	121	-	-	7.200	-	9.678
Yemen	170.854	-	170.854	*170.854*	1.366	-	250.000	-	-	-	422.220
Zambia	56.785	-	56.785	*35.115*	78	-	-	-	-	-	56.863
Zimbabwe	3.995	-	3.995	*3.995*	635	19	-	-	-	-	4.649
Various/unknown	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	25
Grand Total	8.806.867	1.589.673	10.396.540	5.512.932	983.420	251.478	15.628.057	2.229.540	6.559.573	411.698	36.460.306

Country/territory of asylum[1]	Refugees[2]	People in refugee-like situations[3]	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	*Of whom assisted by UNHCR*	Asylum-seekers (pending cases)[4]	Returned refugees[5]	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations[6]	Returned IDPs[7]	Stateless persons[8]	Various[9]	Total population of concern
UNHCR Bureaux											
Central Africa-Great Lakes	945,176	24,102	969,278	626,815	19,909	99,189	2,520,208	99,630	-	155,062	3,863,276
East and Horn of Africa	779,211	33,917	813,128	718,600	64,631	33,766	3,429,440	579,600	100,000	-	5,020,565
Southern Africa	143,422	-	143,422	62,280	325,685	2,499	-	-	-	14,479	486,085
Western Africa	149,018	8	149,026	139,660	9,320	2,011	519,140	166,816	-	4,656	850,969
Asia and Pacific	2,666,588	1,189,403	3,855,991	3,117,917	42,607	59,520	2,693,876	1,208,221	5,119,663	61,877	13,041,755
Middle East and North Africa	1,962,426	43,494	2,005,920	614,547	34,183	50,052	1,802,003	167,740	694,264	-	4,754,162
Europe	1,641,877	5,566	1,647,443	143,135	293,327	4,346	1,359,411	7,533	645,528	175,624	4,133,212
Americas	519,149	293,183	812,332	89,978	193,758	70	3,303,979	-	118	-	4,310,257
Various/unknown	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	25
Total	8,306,867	1,589,673	10,396,540	5,512,932	983,420	251,478	15,628,057	2,229,540	6,559,573	411,698	36,460,306
UN major regions											
Africa	2,216,035	84,027	2,300,062	1,663,984	436,930	149,480	6,468,788	846,046	100,064	174,197	10,475,567
Asia	4,418,605	1,201,897	5,620,502	3,629,317	67,928	97,584	5,434,532	1,381,234	5,820,357	144,924	18,567,061
Europe	1,622,520	5,566	1,628,086	126,993	282,214	4,319	420,758	2,260	639,034	92,577	3,089,248
Latin America and the Caribbean	74,254	293,183	367,437	89,978	68,785	70	3,303,979	-	118	-	3,740,389
Northern America	444,895	-	444,895	-	124,973	-	-	-	-	-	569,868
Oceania	30,558	5,000	35,558	2,660	2,590	-	-	-	-	-	38,148
Various	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	25
Total	8,306,867	1,589,673	10,396,540	5,512,932	983,420	251,478	15,628,057	2,229,540	6,559,573	411,698	36,460,306

Notes to Table 1 (June 2010)

The data are generally provided by Governments, based on their own definitions and methods of data collection.

A dash (-) indicates that the value is zero, not available or not applicable.

[1] Country or territory of asylum or residence.

[2] Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 UN Convention/1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons granted a complementary form of protection and those granted temporary protection. In the absence of Government figures, UNHCR has estimated the refugee population in 24 industrialized countries based on 10 years of individual refugee recognition.

[3] This category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of persons who are outside their country or territory of origin and who face protection risks similar to those of refugees, but for whom refugee status has, for practical or other reasons, not been ascertained.

[4] Persons whose application for asylum or refugee status is pending at any stage in the asylum procedure.

[5] Refugees who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year. Source: country of origin and asylum.

[6] Persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR extends protection and/or assistance. It also includes people in IDP-like situations. This category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of persons who are inside their country of nationality or habitual residence and who face protection risks similar to those of IDPs but who, for practical or other reasons, could not be reported as such.

[7] IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year.

[8] Refers to persons who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its laws.

[9] Refers to individuals who do not necessarily fall directly into any of the other groups but to whom UNHCR may extend its protection and/or assistance services. These activities might be based on humanitarian or other special grounds.

[10] According to the Government of Algeria, there are an estimated 165,000 Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps.

[11] The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

[12] Refugee figures for Iraqis in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic are Government estimates.

[13] According to UNHCR, and based on lists provided by refugee communities in Malaysia, there are 20,000 unregistered asylum-seekers in Malaysia who share the same profile as the current population of asylum-seekers and refugees and who are being progressively registered and having their refugee status determined.

[14] Total refugee figures for Pakistan include individually recognized Afghan refugees (2,800), registered Afghans in refugee villages who are assisted by UNHCR (756,000), and registered Afghans outside refugee villages who are living in a "refugee-like" situation (981,000). Individuals in all categories have been issued a Proof of Registration Card by the Government of Pakistan. Following the completion of the registration exercise in 2007, those living outside refugee villages are now in the "refugee-like" category. They do not receive direct UNHCR material assistance but they benefit from advocacy and reintegration support upon return.

[15] Asylum-seekers (pending cases) refers to an estimated 171,700 undecided cases at first instance at the end of 2009 and 138,100 undecided cases at the end of 2008 (no update available).

[16] The IDP figure at the end of 2009 represents the remaining IDP population in camps and transit sites. They remain of concern to UNHCR together with the 408,000 who have already returned to their villages.

Source: UNHCR/Governments.

Table 2

UNHCR's expenditure in 2009 by regional bureau and type of assistance activity

Regional Bureau / Country/Territory	Type of Assistance					Support		Total in thousands of US Dollars
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
1. West Africa								
Benin	-	-	-	976.4	-	600.0	-	**1,576.4**
Côte d'Ivoire	-	1,280.7	494.6	3,549.0	-	2,356.5	-	**7,680.8**
The Gambia	-	-	-	169.9	-	59.8	-	**229.6**
Ghana	-	282.1	-	4,436.5	12.1	854.0	-	**5,584.7**
Guinea	-	-	121.7	4,597.4	-	1,950.6	-	**6,669.6**
Liberia	-	1,146.2	-	7,747.1	-	2,174.9	-	**11,068.2**
Mali	-	-	-	54.6	-	21.3	-	**76.0**
Nigeria	-	-	-	1,328.6	19.6	1,324.2	-	**2,672.4**
Senegal	-	-	2,141.6	1,901.8	-	4,960.3	-	**9,003.7**
Sierra Leone	-	-	-	3,396.1	-	1,080.9	-	**4,477.0**
Togo	-	-	-	959.6	-	56.0	-	**1,015.6**
Regional Activities	-	736.8	539.4	3,166.1	172.3	-	-	**4,614.6**
sub-total (1)	**-**	**3,445.8**	**3,297.3**	**32,283.0**	**204.0**	**15,438.4**	**-**	**56,668.6**
2. East and Horn of Africa								-
Djibouti	1,241.6	3,779.3	-	-	19.0	1,404.9	-	**6,444.8**
Eritrea	-	3,037.7	25.2	-	-	827.4	-	**3,890.3**
Ethiopia	11,277.0	18,834.8	1,970.6	2,436.7	715.9	4,146.5	-	**39,381.6**
Kenya (incl. regional support hub)	20,666.6	42,470.4	1,252.7	880.7	936.8	9,379.7	-	**75,588.9**
Somalia	-	2,643.8	6,559.9	12,007.7	-	1,891.2	-	**23,102.6**
Sudan	986.1	12,327.9	56,147.2	12,380.1	190.8	7,583.5	-	**89,615.6**
Uganda	3,924.4	1,804.0	3,266.5	22,202.7	163.8	3,214.3	-	**34,575.7**
Regional Activities	-	184.1	-	-	175.6	-	-	**359.6**
sub-total (2)	**38,095.7**	**85,082.0**	**69,222.1**	**49,907.8**	**2,203.9**	**28,447.6**	**-**	**272,959.1**
3. Central Africa and the Great Lakes								-
Burundi	-	4,227.9	26,219.3	-	35.3	4,219.6	-	**34,702.1**
Cameroon	-	7,049.2	-	1,025.3	106.9	1,227.0	-	**9,408.5**
Central African Republic	-	3,644.3	-	823.2	-	1,250.7	-	**5,718.3**
Chad	-	78,018.0	-	11,162.1	254.3	7,110.0	-	**96,544.4**
Congo	2,646.9	93.4	-	3,691.9	29.8	1,483.4	-	**7,945.3**
Democratic Republic of the Congo	-	24,933.4	41,031.8	905.7	-	6,897.1	-	**73,768.0**
Gabon	-	-	-	1,403.5	36.4	769.6	-	**2,209.5**
Rwanda	-	7,577.1	2,022.1	-	40.2	1,341.0	-	**10,980.3**
United Republic of Tanzania	-	17,499.7	9,221.1	12,698.5	305.6	3,410.5	-	**43,135.5**
Regional Activities	-	6,355.4	378.2	-	29.3	-	-	**6,762.9**
sub-total (3)	**2,646.9**	**149,398.4**	**78,872.4**	**31,710.2**	**837.8**	**27,708.9**	**-**	**291,174.7**
4. Southern Africa								-
Angola	-	-	-	3,280.0	-	1,407.3	-	**4,687.3**
Botswana	164.9	1,734.5	-	-	-	459.2	-	**2,358.6**
Malawi	-	1,682.6	-	-	6.3	666.9	-	**2,355.8**
Mozambique	113.7	26.2	-	1,993.6	-	567.5	-	**2,701.0**
Namibia	-	1,963.2	-	-	-	499.9	-	**2,463.1**
South Africa	1,170.0	43.7	172.5	3,803.3	158.1	3,722.3	-	**9,069.9**
Zambia	7.9	5,803.6	595.4	3,564.7	83.2	1,859.5	-	**11,914.4**
Zimbabwe	2,010.0	52.0	-	1,978.1	-	527.5	-	**4,567.6**
Regional Activities	-	898.4	1,084.7	74.0	212.0	-	-	**2,269.1**
sub-total (4)	**3,466.5**	**12,204.2**	**1,852.6**	**14,693.8**	**459.7**	**9,710.0**	**-**	**42,386.8**

Regional Bureau / Country/Territory	Type of Assistance					Support		Total in thousands of US Dollars
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
5. North Africa								-
Algeria	-	9,254.7	-	-	-	842.4	-	10,097.1
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	-	3,094.4	152.8	-	-	810.2	-	4,057.4
Mauritania	-	804.4	6,878.8	-	-	498.4	-	8,181.7
Morocco	-	1,209.9	-	-	3.5	363.9	-	1,577.3
Tunisia	-	374.2	-	-	-	274.0	-	648.2
Western Sahara - Confidence Building Measures	-	2,776.1	-	-	-	886.1	-	3,662.3
Regional Activities	-	777.0	-	-	-	-	-	777.0
sub-total (5)	**-**	**18,290.7**	**7,031.6**	**-**	**3.5**	**3,675.1**	**-**	**29,000.9**
6. The Middle East								-
Egypt	2,296.7	172.1	91.3	3,878.6	13.4	1,453.6	-	7,905.6
Iraq	83,099.1	-	237.5	-	-	6,060.6	-	89,397.2
Israel	-	1,400.9	-	-	-	642.6	-	2,043.4
Jordan	36,209.6	921.4	-	-	187.8	3,445.6	-	40,764.5
Lebanon	5,768.5	1,245.3	-	-	501.5	1,552.8	-	9,068.2
Saudi Arabia	164.6	722.9	-	-	-	1,536.9	-	2,424.4
Syrian Arab Republic	92,429.5	1,344.6	-	-	18.7	3,651.5	-	97,444.3
United Arab Emirates	-	-	-	-	-	1,984.2	-	1,984.2
Yemen	5,930.3	14,208.3	202.1	7,593.1	53.8	2,615.2	-	30,602.8
Regional Activities	2,235.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,235.8
sub-total (6)	**228,134.2**	**20,015.5**	**531.0**	**11,471.7**	**775.2**	**22,942.9**	**-**	**283,870.5**
SUB-TOTAL MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (	**228,134.2**	**38,306.2**	**7,562.6**	**11,471.7**	**778.7**	**26,618.0**	**-**	**312,871.4**
7. South-West Asia								-
Afghanistan	-	23.5	45,120.6	-	-	6,789.9	-	51,934.0
Islamic Republic of Iran	700.9	1,203.5	3,619.6	7,934.5	-	2,756.5	-	16,215.0
Pakistan	101,162.6	14,065.4	4,092.2	-	-	4,271.6	-	123,591.8
Regional Activities	-	-	418.7	-	-	-	-	418.7
sub-total (7)	**101,863.6**	**15,292.4**	**53,251.2**	**7,934.5**	**-**	**13,817.9**	**-**	**192,159.5**
8. Central Asia								-
Kazakhstan	-	428.3	-	349.2	-	1,186.2	-	1,963.8
Kyrgyzstan	-	343.8	-	541.6	-	465.9	-	1,351.3
Tajikistan	-	46.4	-	229.6	-	338.9	-	614.9
Turkmenistan	-	-	-	329.8	-	370.5	-	700.2
Uzbekistan	-	158.6	-	-	-	-	-	158.6
Regional Activities	-	-	-	52.5	-	-	-	52.5
sub-total (8)	**-**	**977.0**	**-**	**1,502.7**	**-**	**2,361.5**	**-**	**4,841.2**
9. South Asia								-
Bangladesh	-	5,947.8	-	-	11.4	557.4	-	6,516.6
India	-	3,306.0	90.1	-	57.3	1,054.1	-	4,507.5
Nepal	-	6,926.5	-	-	1,469.0	1,802.4	-	10,197.9
Sri Lanka	-	323.5	-	31,133.3	-	3,192.4	-	34,649.2
sub-total (9)	**-**	**16,503.8**	**90.1**	**31,133.3**	**1,537.7**	**6,606.4**	**-**	**55,871.3**

Regional Bureau / Country/Territory	Type of Assistance					Support		Total in thousands of US Dollars
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
10. East Asia and the Pacific								-
Australia and New Zealand	-	612.7	-	-	-	577.4	-	**1,190.1**
Cambodia	-	853.9	-	-	-	198.3	-	**1,052.2**
China	-	3,213.3	-	-	-	794.9	-	**4,008.2**
Indonesia	-	1,816.3	-	218.1	-	799.7	-	**2,834.0**
Japan	-	1,933.9	-	-	-	2,575.5	-	**4,509.4**
Malaysia	-	3,910.7	-	-	288.1	2,182.3	-	**6,381.1**
Mongolia	-	291.2	-	-	-	196.1	-	**487.3**
Myanmar	1,891.8	76.6	6,841.5	-	-	1,668.2	-	**10,478.1**
Papua New Guinea	-	-	-	765.1	-	408.0	-	**1,173.1**
Philippines	-	98.4	-	364.0	-	99.0	-	**561.4**
Republic of Korea	-	474.6	-	-	-	427.2	-	**901.8**
Singapore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thailand	-	11,002.2	-	-	256.9	3,118.1	-	**14,377.2**
Timor Leste	-	133.3	-	-	-	70.2	-	**203.5**
Viet Nam	-	-	-	299.5	-	95.1	-	**394.6**
Regional Activities	-	59.4	6.4	87.7	-	-	-	**153.5**
sub-total (10)	**1,891.8**	**24,476.4**	**6,847.9**	**1,734.3**	**545.0**	**13,209.9**	**-**	**48,705.4**
SUB-TOTAL ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (7-10)	**103,755.4**	**57,249.6**	**60,189.1**	**42,304.8**	**2,082.7**	**35,995.8**	**-**	**301,577.4**
11. Eastern Europe								-
Armenia	-	-	-	1,270.2	-	458.0	-	**1,728.3**
Azerbaijan	-	2,916.2	-	196.5	-	1,051.0	-	**4,163.7**
Belarus	-	-	-	962.7	-	483.0	-	**1,445.6**
Georgia	16,711.4	11,425.9	-	3,787.8	-	2,424.5	-	**34,349.6**
Republic of Moldova	-	29.4	-	796.9	-	370.1	-	**1,196.4**
Russian Federation	87.3	-	-	9,667.5	-	1,665.5	-	**11,420.3**
Ukraine	-	-	-	1,938.4	-	1,510.7	-	**3,449.1**
Regional Activities	-	-	-	543.1	-	-	-	**543.1**
sub-total (11)	**16,798.7**	**14,371.5**	**-**	**19,163.0**	**-**	**7,962.8**	**-**	**58,296.0**
12. South-Eastern Europe								-
Albania	-	305.6	-	-	-	293.6	-	**599.1**
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	4,579.7	-	72.7	-	1,195.4	-	**5,847.8**
Croatia	-	-	2,684.0	317.2	-	414.8	-	**3,416.0**
Montenegro	-	1,749.9	-	-	-	707.8	-	**2,457.7**
Serbia	-	3,575.0	952.0	14,423.8	-	4,246.0	-	**23,196.7**
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	1,913.9	-	220.9	-	599.9	-	**2,734.8**
sub-total (12)	**-**	**12,124.2**	**3,636.0**	**15,034.5**	**-**	**7,457.4**	**-**	**38,252.2**
13. Central Europe and the Baltic States								-
Bulgaria	-	-	-	438.8	-	358.4	-	**797.1**
Cyprus	-	-	-	334.9	-	489.6	-	**824.5**
Czech Republic	-	-	-	208.2	-	162.1	-	**370.3**
Hungary	-	-	-	1,373.2	-	1,768.9	-	**3,142.1**
Poland	-	-	-	336.5	-	228.4	-	**564.9**
Romania	-	-	-	411.7	37.0	540.3	-	**989.0**
Slovakia	3.0	-	-	332.8	187.2	49.3	-	**572.2**
Slovenia	-	-	-	63.9	-	-	-	**63.9**
Turkey	1,185.4	-	-	3,602.7	-	2,436.0	-	**7,224.1**
Regional Activities	-	-	-	56.8	-	-	-	**56.8**
sub-total (13)	**1,188.4**	**-**	**-**	**7,159.4**	**224.2**	**6,032.9**	**-**	**14,604.9**

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Regional Bureau / Country/Territory	Type of Assistance					Support		Total in thousands of US Dollars
	Emergency Assistance	Care and Maintenance	Voluntary Repatriation	Local Settlement	Resettlement	Programme Support	Management & Administration	
14. Western Europe								-
Austria	-	-	-	653.9	-	295.0	-	**948.9**
Belgium	-	-	-	1,347.4	-	4,566.1	-	**5,913.4**
France	-	-	-	1,384.4	-	1,482.4	-	**2,866.8**
Germany	-	-	-	1,083.4	-	929.2	-	**2,012.6**
Greece	-	-	-	868.9	-	357.1	-	**1,225.9**
Ireland	-	-	-	143.7	-	481.9	-	**625.6**
Italy	-	-	-	2,505.8	-	1,932.6	-	**4,438.5**
Malta	-	-	-	75.5	33.5	199.5	-	**308.5**
Portugal	-	-	-	90.3	-	-	-	**90.3**
Spain	-	-	-	674.7	-	634.7	-	**1,309.4**
Sweden	-	-	-	687.0	-	828.0	-	**1,515.0**
Switzerland	-	-	-	315.3	-	364.3	-	**679.6**
United Kingdom	-	-	-	555.5	-	892.8	-	**1,448.3**
sub-total (14)	-	-	-	**10,385.8**	**33.5**	**12,963.6**	-	**23,382.8**
SUB-TOTAL EUROPE (11-14)	**17,987.0**	**26,495.8**	**3,636.0**	**51,742.7**	**257.8**	**34,416.7**	-	**134,536.0**
15. North America and the Caribbean								-
Canada	-	-	-	868.0	-	571.8	-	**1,439.8**
United States of America (incl. regional activities)	-	-	-	2,302.2	-	1,507.1	-	**3,809.3**
sub-total (15)	-	-	-	**3,170.2**	-	**2,079.0**	-	**5,249.2**
16. Latin America								-
Argentina (incl. regional activties)	1,046.9	-	-	1,388.2	906.3	1,213.1	-	**4,554.8**
Brazil	1,008.3	-	-	1,236.6	806.2	840.2	-	**3,891.3**
Colombia	-	-	-	15,673.5	-	2,439.8	-	**18,113.3**
Costa Rica	-	-	-	1,739.9	140.0	838.1	-	**2,718.0**
Cuba	-	190.2	18.9	-	-	-	-	**209.1**
Ecuador	-	3,435.6	-	5,946.1	-	1,557.0	-	**10,938.7**
Mexico	-	-	-	1,176.5	-	513.5	-	**1,690.0**
Panama	-	-	-	1,098.8	-	1,339.8	-	**2,438.6**
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of) (incl. regional activitie:	-	-	-	2,784.1	-	1,417.2	-	**4,201.3**
sub-total (16)	**2,055.2**	**3,625.8**	**18.9**	**31,043.8**	**1,852.8**	**10,158.7**	-	**48,755.2**
SUB-TOTAL AMERICAS (15-16)	**2,055.2**	**3,625.8**	**18.9**	**34,214.0**	**1,852.8**	**12,237.7**	-	**54,004.3**
17. Global Programmes	6,784.2	11,136.8	59.3	29,547.7	6,008.2	58,584.7	-	**112,121.0**
SUB-TOTAL FIELD (1 - 17)	**402,925.1**	**386,944.8**	**224,710.3**	**297,875.7**	**14,685.5**	**249,157.9**	-	**1,576,299.3**
18. Headquarters								-
Programme support						59,635.3		**59,635.3**
Management and administration								-
- Annual Budget fund							60,409.3	**60,409.3**
- Regular budget fund							46,030.8	**46,030.8**
sub-total (18)						**59,635.3**	**106,440.1**	**166,075.4**
19. Junior Professional Officers							12,121.5	**12,121.5**
TOTAL UNHCR (1 - 18)	**402,925.1**	**386,944.8**	**224,710.3**	**297,875.7**	**14,685.5**	**308,793.2**	**118,561.6**	**1,754,496.2**

A/65/12/Add.1

United Nations

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Sixty-first session (4-8 October 2010)

General Assembly

Official Records
Sixty-fifth Session
Supplement No. 12A

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United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

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I. Introduction

A. Opening of the session

1. The Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme held its sixty-first plenary session at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, from 4-8 October 2010. It was opened by the Chairman, His Excellency Ambassador Peter Woolcott (Australia).

2. The Chairman welcomed delegations, in particular Slovenia which was attending its first plenary session as a member of the Executive Committee.

B. Representation on the Committee

3. The following members of the Committee were represented at the session:

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Holy See, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zambia.

4. The Governments of the following States were present as observers:

Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Kuwait, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Panama, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe.

5. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta was represented as an observer.

6. Also present were the following intergovernmental organizations and other entities:

African Union, Council of Europe, Economic Community of West African States, European Union, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Organization for Migration, and Organization of the Islamic Conference.

7. The United Nations system was represented as follows:

Food and Agriculture Organization, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Office at Geneva, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and World Food Programme.

8. A total of 32 non-governmental organizations attended.

C. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

9. The Executive Committee adopted by consensus the following agenda (A/AC.96/1091):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Introductory statement by the High Commissioner.
4. General debate.
5. Consideration of reports on the work of the Standing Committee:
   (a) International protection;
   (b) Programme budgets, management, financial control and administrative oversight.
6. Consideration of reports relating to programme and administrative oversight and evaluation.
7. Consideration and adoption of the Biennial Programme Budget 2010-2011 (revised).
8. Review of the Annual Consultations with non-governmental organizations.
9. Other statements.
10. Meetings of the Standing Committee in 2011.
11. Consideration of the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the Executive Committee.
12. Election of officers.
13. Any other business.
14. Adoption of the report of the sixty-first session of the Executive Committee.
15. Closing of the session.

D. Election of officers for the sixty-second session

10. Under Rule 10 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation, to serve the Committee from the day immediately following their election to the end of the last day of the following annual plenary session:

Chairperson:	H. E. Ambassador Hisham Badr (Egypt)
Vice-Chairperson:	H. E. Ambassador Jan Knutsson (Sweden)
Rapporteur:	Ms. Sofia Lascurain (Mexico)

II. Work of the sixty-first session

11. As the basis for the general debate, the High Commissioner delivered an opening statement, the text of which is available on UNHCR's website (www.unhcr.org). Prior to the High Commissioner's statement, the Executive Committee heard a pre-recorded message from the Secretary-General.[1]

12. A summary of the ensuing general debate, delivered by the Chairman, is contained in Annex III.

III. Conclusion and decisions of the Executive Committee

A. Conclusion on refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR

13. *The Executive Committee*,

Emphasizing that this Conclusion applies to refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR in accordance with the provisions of international conventions and relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions,

Taking note of its Conclusions No. 47 (XXXVIII), No. 74 (XLV), No. 105 (LVII), No. 107 (LVIII), No. 108 (LIX) and No. 109 (LX) and the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol on 3 May 2008,

Acknowledging that refugees and other persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual and sensory impairments, which, in interaction with various barriers, including attitudinal and environmental barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others,

Recalling the recognition by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the inherent dignity and equality of persons with disabilities, recognizing that disability is an evolving concept and acknowledging the valued existing and potential contributions made by persons with disabilities to the overall well-being and diversity of their communities,

Reaffirming the importance of mainstreaming age, gender and diversity in identifying and responding to the views and needs of all persons with disabilities; and taking note with appreciation of UNHCR's involvement in the inter-agency support group for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to support the promotion and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol,

Recognizing that the specific needs of persons with disabilities are often overlooked, especially in the early phases of humanitarian emergencies, and that they, particularly women, children and older persons with disabilities, are exposed to

[1] See summary records of the session for a full account of the deliberations of the Committee, including statements or other interventions by delegations under all agenda items, and their comments on the conclusions and decisions, as well as summing up and closing statements by the High Commissioner and by the Chairman.

discrimination, exploitation, violence, and sexual and gender-based violence, and may be excluded from support and services,

Recognizing that children with disabilities are at a greater risk of abuse, neglect, abandonment, exploitation, health concerns, exposure to the risk of longer term psycho-social disturbances, family separation and denial of the right to education,

Acknowledging that services and facilities, including assistance programmes and protection, may be inaccessible to persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that refugees with disabilities may be excluded from support and services when repatriating and often have fewer opportunities for other durable solutions, namely local integration and resettlement,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to take all appropriate measures to protect and assist persons with disabilities, in all situations,

Recognizing that host States, which are often developing countries, have limited resources and face various challenges in providing such services and facilities; reaffirming, therefore, the international community and UNHCR's role to assist States in fulfilling these responsibilities, in the spirit of international cooperation and burden sharing,

(a) *Calls upon* States and UNHCR, in cooperation with relevant partners where applicable, to protect and assist refugees and other persons with disabilities against all forms of discrimination and to provide sustainable and appropriate support in addressing all their needs;

(b) *Also calls* upon States, UNHCR and all relevant partners to raise awareness on disability issues and to foster respect for the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, by providing training on the needs, rights and capabilities of refugees and other persons with disabilities, among other things;

(c) *Recommends* that States, UNHCR and relevant partners ensure where appropriate a swift and systematic identification and registration of refugees and other persons with disabilities, with particular attention to those who cannot communicate their own needs, in order to identify their protection and assistance needs, including as part of a global needs assessment;

(d) *Recommends* that States include refugees and other persons with disabilities in relevant policies and programmes and provide access to services, including through the issuance of relevant documentation;

(e) *Encourages* States, UNHCR and all relevant partners to ensure the participation of refugees and other persons with disabilities through appropriate consultation in the design and implementation of relevant services and programmes;

(f) *Encourages* States, UNHCR and all partners to communicate information, procedures, decisions and policies appropriately to ensure that these are accessible and understood by refugees and other persons with disabilities;

(g) *Encourages* States, UNHCR and partners to enable children and youth with disabilities to access appropriate protection, assistance and education, and to ensure the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities, protected and assisted by UNHCR, in programmes to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of exploitation;

(h) *Encourages* States, UNHCR and relevant partners to adopt and implement appropriate and reasonable accessibility standards, including at the start of an emergency, and to ensure that all mainstream services and programmes as well as specialized services are accessible to persons with disabilities, including those services and programmes provided within the framework of international cooperation;

(i) *Reaffirms* the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of refugees and other persons with disabilities, particularly in developing countries, through ensuring timely availability of adequate humanitarian and development funding and other resources, including sufficient support for host communities;

(j) *Recommends* that States and UNHCR, as applicable, ensure that refugee status determination and all other relevant procedures are accessible and designed to enable persons with disabilities to fully and fairly represent their claims with the necessary support;

(k) *Recommends* that States, in cooperation with UNHCR and relevant partners, ensure that refugees with disabilities have equality of opportunity for durable solutions and are provided appropriate support;

(l) *Recommends* that States, in cooperation with UNHCR and relevant partners upon request, ensure that persons with disabilities, other than refugees, protected and assisted by UNHCR have equality of opportunity for solutions and are provided appropriate support;

(m) *Requests* UNHCR to include disability awareness in its policy guidelines and training programmes and to ensure that relevant policies, guidelines and operating standards for UNHCR staff and implementing partners are in line with this Conclusion;

(n) *Requests* UNHCR to provide Member States with periodic updates on the follow-up to this Conclusion, including relevant financial data.

B. General decision on administrative, financial and programme matters

14. *The Executive Committee*,

(a) *Confirms* that the activities proposed under the Biennial Programme Budget for the years 2010-2011, as set out in documents A/AC.96/1087 and A/AC.96/1087/Add.2, have been found on review to be consistent with the Statute of the Office of the High Commissioner (General Assembly Resolution 428 (V)), the High Commissioner's other functions as recognized, promoted or requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council, or the Secretary-General; and the relevant provisions of the Financial Rules for Voluntary Funds Administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees, including articles 6, 7, 8 and 11;

(b) *Recalls* that the Executive Committee, at its sixtieth session, approved programmes and budgets for Regional Programmes, Global Programmes and Headquarters under UNHCR's 2010-2011 Biennial Programme Budget amounting to a total of $3,007,297,300 in 2010, comprising programmed activities of $2,778,471,100, the United Nations Regular Budget contribution towards headquarters costs, an Operational Reserve (representing 10 per cent of programmed activities under Pillars 1 and II) of $196,826,200, an amount of $20 million for the "New or additional activities — mandate-related" Reserve, and $12.0 million for Junior Professional Officers; approves the 2010 supplementary budgets currently amounting to $281,432,331, bringing total revised requirements for 2010 to $3,288,729,631

and authorizes the High Commissioner within these total appropriations, to effect adjustments in Regional Programmes, Global Programmes and Headquarters budgets, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Rules for Voluntary Funds Administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees, including sub-articles 7.4, 7.5, 8.1, 8.2 and 11.1;

(c) *Approves* the programmes and budgets for Regional Programmes, Global Programmes and Headquarters under the revised 2011 Programme Budget amounting to $3,288,830,000, including the United Nations Regular Budget contribution towards Headquarters costs, and an Operational Reserve (representing 10 per cent of programmed activities under Pillars I and II) of $219,310,054; notes that these provisions, together with those of $12.0 million for Junior Professional Officers and an amount of $20 million for the "New or additional activities — mandate-related" Reserve bring total requirements for 2011 to $3,320,830,000; and authorizes the High Commissioner within these total appropriations, to effect adjustments in Regional Programmes, Global Programmes and Headquarters budgets, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Rules for Voluntary Funds Administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees, including sub-articles 7.4, 7.5, 8.1, 8.2 and 11.1;

(d) *Notes* the Report of the Board of Auditors to the General Assembly on the Accounts of the Voluntary Funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2009 (A/AC.96/1083), and the High Commissioner's Measures Taken in Response to the Recommendations of the Report of the Board of Auditors (A/AC.96/1086/Add.1); as well as the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on UNHCR's Biennial Programme Budget for 2010-2011 (A/AC.96/1087/Add.1) and the various reports of the High Commissioner related to oversight activities (A/AC.96/1088 and A/AC.96/1089); and requests to be kept regularly informed on the measures taken to address the recommendations and the observations raised in these various oversight documents;

(e) *Requests* the High Commissioner, within the resources available, to respond flexibly and efficiently to the needs currently indicated under the revised Biennial Programme Budget for the years 2010-2011; and authorizes him, in the case of additional new emergency needs that cannot be met fully from the Operational Reserve, to create supplementary budgets and issue special appeals under all pillars, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Rules for Voluntary Funds Administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees, including sub-articles 7.4, 7.5, 8.1, 8.2 and 11.1, with such adjustments being reported to each subsequent Standing Committee for consideration;

(f) *Acknowledges* with appreciation the burden that continues to be shouldered by developing and least developed countries hosting refugees; and urges Member States to recognize this valuable contribution to the protection of refugees and to participate in efforts to promote durable solutions; and

(g) *Urges* Member States, in the light of the extensive needs to be addressed by the Office of the High Commissioner, to respond generously and in a spirit of solidarity, and in a timely manner, to his appeal for resources to meet in full the approved revised 2010-2011 Biennial Programme Budget; and to support initiatives to ensure that the Office is resourced in a better and more predictable manner, while keeping "earmarking" to a minimum level.

C. Decision on the programme of work of the Standing Committee in 2011

15. *The Executive Committee*

Having reviewed the issues before it at its sixty-first session, and bearing in mind the decisions and conclusion adopted at that session,

(a) *Decides* to convene no more than three formal meetings of the Standing Committee in 2011, to be held in March, June and September;

(b) *Reaffirms* its decision on the framework for the Standing Committee's programme of work (A/AC.96/1003 paragraph 25, sub-paragraph 2(c)), authorizes the Standing Committee to add and delete items, if appropriate, to this framework for its meetings in 2011 and requests member States to meet in December 2010 to draw up a detailed work plan for formal adoption by the Standing Committee at its first meeting in 2011;

(c) *Calls upon* its members to continue efforts to ensure that debate at the Executive Committee and its Standing Committee be of a substantive and interactive nature, yielding practical guidance and clear advice to the High Commissioner, in keeping with the Committee's statutory functions; and calls on the Office of the High Commissioner to be explicit and analytical in its reports and presentations to the Committee and to submit documentation in a timely manner;

(d) *Further* requests the Standing Committee to report on its work to the sixty-second session of the Executive Committee.

D. Decision on observer participation in meetings of the Standing Committee in 2010-2011

16. *The Executive Committee*,

(a) *Approves* applications by the following Government observer delegations for participation in meetings of the Standing Committee from October 2010 to October 2011:

Croatia, Iraq, Malaysia and Slovakia;

(b) *Authorizes* the Standing Committee to decide upon any additional applications from Government observer delegations to participate in its meetings during the aforementioned period;

(c) *Approves* the following list of intergovernmental and international organizations to be invited by the High Commissioner to participate as observers in relevant meetings of its Standing Committee from October 2010 to October 2011:

United Nations specialized agencies, departments, funds and programmes, African Union, Council of Europe, East African Community, Economic Community of Central African States, Economic Community of West African States, European Union, Executive Secretariat of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Intergovernmental Authority on Development, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Organization for Migration, League of Arab States, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, International Organisation of "la Francophonie", Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organisation for Security and

Cooperation in Europe, Southern African Development Community and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

E. Decision on the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the Executive Committee

17. *The Executive Committee,*

Recalling its decision on working methods adopted at its fifty-fifth plenary session (A/AC.96/1003 paragraph 25),

Decides to adopt as the provisional agenda for the sixty-second session of the Executive Committee the standard model contained in sub-paragraph 1(f) of the above-mentioned decision.

Annex I

List of decisions adopted by the Standing Committee in 2010

In accordance with the authority vested in it by the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee adopted a number of decisions which are annexed to the reports of the different Standing Committee meetings, as follows:

(a) *Report of the forty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/1084):

- Decision on programme budgets and funding in 2010.

(b) *Report of the forty-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/1092):

- Decision on UNHCR's Programme in the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013;
- Decision on overall programme budgets and funding for 2010.

(c) *Report of the forty-ninth meeting of the Standing Committee* (A/AC.96/1093):

- Decision on overall programme budgets and funding for 2010.

Annex II

Conclusion and decision adopted by the Executive Committee at the Extraordinary Meeting of 8 December 2009 of its sixty-first session

A. Conclusion on protracted refugee situations

The Executive Committee,

Recalling the principles, guidance and approaches elaborated in previous Conclusions of the Executive Committee which are pertinent to protracted situations,

Welcoming the initiatives taken by the High Commissioner to maximize all opportunities to unlock and find comprehensive solutions to the existing protracted refugee situations, including the convening in 2008 of a High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges on the specific topic of protracted refugee situations,

Noting with deep concern the plight of millions of refugees worldwide who continue to be trapped in "protracted refugee situations" for 5 years or more after their initial displacement, without immediate prospects for implementation of durable solutions,

Noting with concern the detrimental effects of long-lasting and intractable exile on the physical, mental, social, cultural and economic well-being of refugees,

Recognizing that priorities for responding to protracted refugee situations are different from those for responding to emergency situations,

Further recalling the need for the countries of origin to undertake all possible measures to prevent refugee situations, particularly those that can become protracted, to address their root causes, and to promote and facilitate with the full cooperation of host countries, the international community, UNHCR, and all other relevant actors, refugees' voluntary return home from exile and their sustainable reintegration in safety, dignity and social and economic security,

Recognizing that, in principle, all refugees should have the right to have restored to them or be compensated for any housing, land or property of which they were deprived in an illegal, discriminatory or arbitrary manner before or during exile; noting, therefore, the potential need for fair and effective restitution mechanisms,

Acknowledging that protracted refugee situations also impose considerable burdens and generate significant problems and challenges in different sectors for host States and communities which are often developing, in transition, or with limited resources and facing other constraints,

Affirming that support should be provided for addressing the problems and needs of the host States, especially the local host communities, which face additional social and economic difficulties and suffer negative consequences to their local environment and natural resources,

Expressing deep appreciation for the generosity, commitment and determination which these States nevertheless continue to demonstrate in hosting refugees and asylum-seekers, providing protection and facilitating essential humanitarian interventions on their behalf, in keeping with international refugee law, international human rights law and international humanitarian law as applicable,

Thanking those States which have taken measures to bring to an end some of the most enduring refugee situations including through concrete support to the voluntary return to the

country of origin, local integration, the provision of resettlement places; and the acquisition of citizenship through naturalization where this has taken place,

Acknowledging that, while awaiting the implementation of a durable solution, refugees may make positive contributions to their host societies drawing on opportunities to become self-reliant and noting the importance of participatory approaches in this regard,

Noting the importance of refugee access to basic services, including education and health, in order to enhance their opportunities,

Further acknowledging that in times of global financial and economic crises, the impacts are severe for the most vulnerable, not least refugees in protracted situations and their host countries, and the need to give special attention to those who are most affected by the crises is therefore all the greater,

Underlining that the status quo is not an acceptable option and, while every situation is unique, all feasible and practical efforts should be taken to unlock all continuing protracted situations especially through the implementation of durable solutions in the spirit of international solidarity and burden sharing,

Reiterating that voluntary repatriation remains the preferred durable solution of refugee situations and that, while one or another solution may be more directly applicable to each of the respective protracted situations, all solutions will usually complement and intersect with each other, requiring careful tailoring, sequencing and phasing in some situations, and simultaneous application in others,

Mindful that there are compelling legal, protection, health, social and economic problems in all situations which can become protracted and should therefore also receive due attention,

Noting that, vis-à-vis Palestinian refugees, this Conclusion shall only be implemented subject to Article 1d of the 1951 Convention, Article 7c of the UNHCR Statute and in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolutions relevant to the issue,

Further noting that States' domestic laws could offer more protection and assistance, as appropriate, than outlined in the 1951 Convention,

(a) *Calls upon* States and all other relevant actors to commit themselves, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden sharing, to comprehensive, multilateral and multi-sectoral collaboration and action in addressing the root causes of protracted refugee situations; in ensuring that people are not compelled to flee their countries of origin in the first place to find safety elsewhere; and in resolving the protracted refugee situations which persist, in full respect for the rights of the affected persons;

(b) *Recognizes* the importance of political will in securing comprehensive solutions for protracted displacement and calls upon States to act as catalysts to unlock protracted refugee situations and begin progress towards the resolution of these situations;

(c) *Expresses* concern about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions, while bearing in mind broader political processes that may be under way to address protracted refugee situations, including their root causes;

(d) *Strongly* reaffirms the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, and

recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

(e) *Calls* on countries of origin, countries of asylum, UNHCR, and the international community to take all necessary measures to enable refugees to exercise their right to return home freely in safety and dignity while recalling that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return;

(f) *Underlines* the responsibility of countries of origin, with the help of the international community where appropriate, to create and/or ensure conditions for refugees to regain the rights of which they were deprived before or during exile, even after refugees have remained in exile for extended periods of time, and to enable and consolidate their sustainable return and reintegration free of fear;

(g) *Recommends* further that action to address and facilitate durable solutions, with a view to burden and responsibility sharing, be directed, as appropriate, in the form of voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement in third countries or, where applicable, in a strategic combination, and assistance to host countries, including through:

(i) the provision of financial assistance and other forms of support in situations where voluntary repatriation is foreseeable or taking place, in particular bearing in mind that voluntary repatriation is the preferred solution;

(ii) where local integration is appropriate and feasible, the provision of financial assistance and other forms of support, including development assistance, for the benefit of refugees and the communities hosting them so as to assist countries of asylum in integrating refugees locally;

(iii) the more effective and strategic use of resettlement as a tool of burden and responsibility sharing, including through the application of a group resettlement referral methodology;

(iv) the mobilization of support for rehabilitating refugee-impacted areas in the host country from which refugees have returned;

(h) *Recalling* that local integration is a sovereign decision and an option that may be exercised by States considering the specific circumstances of each refugee situation, encourages States and UNHCR, in consultation with other relevant actors, to consider local integration where appropriate and feasible and in a manner that takes into account the needs, views, and impact on the hosting communities and refugees;

(i) *Encourages* States and UNHCR to actively pursue, the strategic and increased use of resettlement in a spirit of international burden and responsibility sharing; and calls upon States, with the capacity to do so, to provide resettlement places and to explore more flexible approaches consistent with national legislation and regulations to bridge gaps which may exist between the resettlement criteria they use and the specific needs and situation of refugees in protracted situations, who may face difficulties in articulating a detailed claim or other constraints;

(j) *Urges* States, UNHCR and other partners to continue pursuing proactive measures in a manner that reduces dependency, promotes the self-sufficiency of refugees towards enhancing their protection and dignity, helps them manage their time spent in exile effectively and constructively and invests in future durable solutions;

(k) *Recognizes* that protracted refugee situations can increase the risks to which refugees may be exposed and that, in this respect, there is a need to identify and respond effectively to the specific protection concerns of men, women, girls and boys, in particular, unaccompanied and separated children, adolescents, persons with disabilities, and older persons, who may be exposed to heightened risks, including sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of violence and exploitation; and encourages UNHCR and States to pursue age, gender and diversity mainstreaming and participatory approaches with a view to enhancing the safety, well-being and development of refugees and promoting appropriate solutions for them;

(l) *Requests* UNHCR to enhance its efforts to raise awareness, including among refugees, through the organization of regular campaigns and local and regional workshops on durable solutions;

(m) *Encourages* States, and within their mandate, UNHCR and all other relevant actors to pursue comprehensive approaches toward the implementation of durable solutions and to take protracted refugee situations into consideration in their endeavours in order to create the necessary conditions to bring displacement to an end;

(n) *Urges* States, UNHCR and humanitarian and development partners to pursue active and effective partnerships and coordination in implementation of durable solutions, and to develop new opportunities for partnership including through engaging in and implementing in full the objectives of the Delivering as One initiative; increased information exchange and advice given to the United Nations Peace building Commission; and partnerships with other actors such as international financial institutions, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Development Group, regional bodies, parliaments, local governments, mayors, business leaders, the media and diaspora communities;

(o) *While* reiterating that there is no "one size" which fits all protracted situations, affirms that good practices and lessons learned in protracted situations could prove valuable; and recommends to UNHCR, host countries, countries of origin, resettlement countries and other stakeholders the use of "core" or "working" or "reference" groups, or other similar mechanisms which may be established in the Field and/or in Geneva as appropriate, as a useful methodology to identify appropriate innovative, practical solutions, built around particular situations or themes, within a sub-regional, regional or multilateral context, for specific protracted situations;

(p) *Reaffirms* its call to the international community at large, in cooperation with UNHCR and other international organizations, to ensure, in a spirit of burden sharing, timely availability of adequate development and humanitarian funding and other resources, including sufficient support for host communities and countries of origin in order to provide assistance and achieve durable solutions in protracted refugee situations.

B. Decision on a revision of UNHCR's Financial Rules for voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees

The Executive Committee,

Having considered the proposed revision of the current Financial rules for voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees (A/AC.96/503/Rev.8),

Notes the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on earlier drafts (A.AC/96/1068/Add.1), as well as the advice of the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS);

Endorses the proposed revision and requests the High Commissioner to promulgate the revised Financial rules with effect from 1 January 2010.

Annex III

Chairman's Summary of the General Debate

1. The High Commissioner's comprehensive presentation and the insightful dialogue that followed had provided a good start to a year when UNHCR would be commemorating the anniversaries of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and its own 60th anniversary. Many delegations congratulated the High Commissioner on his re-election, and expressed appreciation for his visits to their countries and his skilful leadership of UNHCR's efforts to help refugees, the stateless, other persons of concern and internally displaced persons. They also paid tribute to the dedication of his staff. Delegations remarked that UNHCR staff often worked in dangerous and difficult situations, and in particular, they paid tribute to those who had lost their lives in the course of their duties. With regard to current United Nations moves to harmonize conditions of service for staff members, speakers noted the High Commissioner's appeal to preserve structured support for family members of staff serving in hardship, non-family duty stations.

2. Delegations indicated that they were looking forward to participating in the commemorative activities. This would provide an opportunity to raise public awareness of refugee issues and past achievements; but, more importantly, it would allow States to renew their commitment to UNHCR and consider how to address the new challenges that confronted all concerned. Many speakers called for countries to ratify these Conventions and also expressed support for a strengthening of the protection mandate of the Office and a renewed focus on statelessness; the need for all parties to respect international humanitarian law and refugee law; and the principles underlying UNHCR's humanitarian operations, including *non-refoulement*.

3. Delegations agreed with the High Commissioner that the international community was facing many new challenges: the increasing intractability of conflict; devastating natural disasters; the negative effects of climate change; recent economic and financial crises; food, water and energy scarcity; increased urbanization; and environmental degradation. All of these contributed to additional forced displacement and exacerbated existing challenges — protracted refugee situations; shrinking humanitarian space; difficulties in gaining access to victims; assuring security for staff in the field; addressing the needs of women and children; and dealing with the complexities of mixed migration flows, human trafficking and smuggling.

4. Delegations had commented widely on how UNHCR could best prepare to meet these problems. Many had expressed support for UNHCR's introduction of results-based management and budgeting and the Global Needs Assessment, while calling for a transparent dialogue with ExCom members on these issues. They had also encouraged UNHCR to review its funding approaches, in order to seek additional resources, including from the private sector. In this regard, it was encouraging that several States were making substantial increases to their annual contributions.

5. In addition, some delegations welcomed the establishment of an independent advisory committee on oversight and improved accountability in the budgetary process. Other delegations pointed out the need for international solidarity and burden-sharing and noted the considerable contributions made by host countries themselves, acknowledging the substantial burdens they had borne in hosting large numbers of refugees.

6. While recognizing the significant leadership role that UNHCR played through the cluster approach and humanitarian reform, speakers had noted that UNHCR could not achieve the goals it was tasked to reach, operating on its own. They had called for increased cooperation and partnership with a variety of actors including: DPKO, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, OCHA, the IASC, as well as humanitarian and development partners, IOM, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, and NGOs. And many had underlined the particular value and importance of different aspects of partnership between UNHCR and member States, including capacity building.

7. Many delegations welcomed UNHCR's willingness to undertake responsibility for persons displaced as a result of natural disasters under certain conditions — where no clear alternative leadership was present and where the affected State requested assistance. At the same time, they had noted that this should be done in consultation with member States, and should not come at the expense of UNHCR fulfilling its existing mandate responsibilities with regard to refugees, the stateless, or people of concern to the Office who had been displaced internally by conflict situations. This would also imply careful consideration of UNHCR's capacity to respond in terms of relevant financial and human resource implications.

8. As always, delegations stressed the importance of continuing the search for durable solutions, especially for those in protracted situations. While voluntary repatriation remained the preferred solution, they noted the role local integration and resettlement could play where voluntary repatriation was not feasible. Some delegations had reiterated calls for countries which were in a position to do so to consider offering more places for resettlement. In this regard, the United Republic of Tanzania's local integration of Burundian refugees was a noteworthy achievement, and the Committee welcomed the increase in the number of States who had indicated that they would participate in resettlement opportunities. At the same time, a few delegations expressed the hope that where repatriation efforts were ongoing, they might proceed in a more expeditious manner.

9. The Committee was heartened to hear new commitments from a number of States ready to amend their national legislation to help resolve problems of statelessness, including through birth registration and the provision of documentation. These were tangible examples of protection for some of the most vulnerable people in the world.

10. Many speakers also expressed support for more specific initiatives being undertaken by the Office including programmes to assist urban refugees; the Mexico Plan of Action; and efforts to improve the security situation for staff. Several delegations indicated they were looking forward to the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection on the theme "Protection gaps and responses", that would take place at the end of 2010.

11. In addition, delegations welcomed efforts at the field level to enhance self-reliance and livelihood opportunities, improve education, carry out birth registration, address the special needs of women and children, including the problems of sexual and gender-based violence, and address the needs of the disabled. Here, many welcomed the Executive Committee Conclusion on "refugees with disabilities and other persons with disabilities protected and assisted by UNHCR." Each of these programmes would enhance efforts to promote "human security".

12. The situation in individual countries was also a significant part of the overall discussion. Concerns were raised about States severely affected by natural disasters, such as Haiti and Pakistan, or where continuing conflict had contributed to large numbers of displaced persons such as in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Sudan. More optimistically, many delegations commented on various efforts they were undertaking to assist displaced persons in their own countries — through programmes, projects, national

legislation, or regional conferences. Of particular note was the recent meeting of the African Union in Kampala, Uganda, that resulted in the Convention on Protection of IDPs in Africa.

13. In conclusion, the Committee had acknowledged that UNHCR and the international community faced significant challenges — both new and old. But UNHCR's reforms in the areas of budget and management; enhanced cooperation with a wide range of partners; new initiatives being developed regarding protection, security, urban refugees, migration, and IDPs; enhanced donor support and resettlement opportunities; and a variety of new approaches being carried out by member States themselves, all left room for hope in the face of these daunting challenges.

14. In the coming year when the Committee would commemorate two of the most important conventions affecting people of concern to UNHCR, the Chairman expressed the hope that, in the words of one delegation, it would be possible to "celebrate 2011 by revitalizing the international community's humanitarian commitments and engage in more effective partnership to address the protection challenges of current times".

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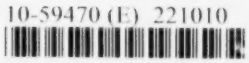

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